



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Equatorial Guinea

President Decrees Release of Political Prisoners

AB3103210093 Paris AFP in English 1920 GMT
31 Mar 93

[Text] Libreville, March 31 (AFP)—Equatorial Guinean President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo decreed the release of all political prisoners Wednesday [31 March], Radio Malabo, monitored here, announced.

The president signed the decree as part of the National Pact agreed between him and opposition leaders in mid-March, the radio added. The radio did not disclose how many political prisoners were to be freed.

Brigadier General Mbasogo, who seized power in 1979, ruled Equatorial Guinea with an iron hand until November 1991 when he allowed a referendum on whether the country should move towards a multi-party system.

Although the electorate voted overwhelmingly for democracy, Mbasogo has been slow to implement reform and many of the leading opposition figures remain in exile.

Zaire

Minister Appeals for UN Force; France Denies Mobutu Visa

BR0104112793 Brussels DE MORGEN in Dutch
1 Apr 93 p 5

[Unattributed report: "Renewed Appeal To Send UN Peacekeeping Force To Zaire"]

[Text] Brussels—Speaking in Brussels yesterday, Lambert Mende, minister of information in Etienne Tshisekedi's transitional Zairian Government, renewed his appeal to the Belgian Government to ensure that a UN peacekeeping force is sent to Zaire. In his opinion, this is the only way that free, democratic elections in Zaire will be possible.

Mende claimed that Mobutu remained the greatest obstacle to such elections. "As long as he has the power to ban the publication of newspapers and to limit the opposition's freedom of movement, and as long as all government posts remain occupied by 2,800 members of his own circle of followers, there can be no free elections," Mende said in Brussels yesterday.

Mende finally succeeded in leaving Zaire. He had been expected in Belgium a week ago, but claims that he was detained by Mobutu's political police, who confiscated his passport. With the help of other opposition forces, he succeeded in crossing the Zaire River by night to reach Brazzaville. "Since the end of the Mobutu conclave (which appointed Birindwa prime minister, ed.), the Zairian capital has been a prison for non-Mobutu supporters," Mende claimed.

On Wednesday, Zaire took note of the decision by the Belgian Government not to recognize Faustin Birindwa as prime minister, according to a memo from the Zairian ambassador to Belgium, in which Zaire once again declared that it was prepared to normalize its relations with Belgium.

Visa

Well-informed sources in Paris yesterday claimed that Zairian President Mobutu once again had applied for a visa to visit his villa in Cap Martin in southern France. However, the new French Government let it be known that he was not welcome. The previous socialist government had refused Mobutu permission to come to France 10 days ago.

National Assembly Adopts Harmonized Constitutional Text

AB3103222693 Kinshasa Tele-Zaire Television Network in French 1900 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Excerpt] Following seven months of political crisis brought about by the existence of the act initiated by the sovereign national conference, but never promulgated by the head of state, and the Second Republic constitution, which was never replaced, the Zairian Parliament has finally adopted a harmonized text dubbed the Law of the Harmonized Constitutional Text Governing the Transitional period, in compliance with the orders of the political conclave. The event took place during the afternoon of 31 March at the National Palace, the parliamentary headquarters. We witnessed the event:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] Here at the Parliament, the people's representatives have finally adopted the 129th article on the Harmonized Constitutional Text Governing the Transitional Period. This is to say that the people's representatives have just finally finished examining the second point on the agenda of the extraordinary parliamentary session convened, as you well know, by the head of state following the conclave of the National Palace.

[Assembly Speaker] 153 members voted in favor of the text, two members voted against it, and there was one abstention. The National Assembly, therefore, adopts the draft bill on the Harmonized Constitutional Text Governing the Transitional Period. The attorney general, Mungulu Tabagani, who was also present, addressed the people's representatives.

[Mungulu] I wish to thank you for the hospitality which you have shown me. I would also like to thank you for making my task easy, and enabling everyone to assist with the adoption of this text. I would also like to thank the technical teams, who greatly assisted us with the documentation and everything else, so that we could accomplish our task. I think when I leave this place, I will not forget this historic moment. I also finally got to know the people's representatives. I am always at their disposal. [passage omitted] [end recording]

ADELI Issues Communique on Monsengwo News Conference

AB0104133093 Kinshasa Tele-Zaire Television Network in French 1900 GMT 31 Mar 93

[ADELI statement issued by Jean Nguz A Karl-I-Bond in Kinshasa on 31 March on the 30 March news conference by HCR Chairman Monsignor Laurent Monsengwo]

[Text] The Union of Independent Federalists and Republicans [UFERI] has learned from the media about the news conference which Monsignor Monsengwo, chairman of the High Council of the Republic [HCR] held on 30 March. During the news conference, Monsignor Monsengwo disqualified the two governments formed by the national sovereign conference and the Kinshasa political conclave, respectively. The reason he gave was that neither government can reconcile the Zairian people. He proposed, in particular, a roundtable of politicians to resolve the present crisis to be chaired by him. Following this statement aimed at sowing trouble and confusion in national and international opinion, the Alliance of Democrats for Free Elections [ADELI] wishes to make the following clarification:

It is an established fact that Zaire's sovereign national conference has been a failure, which was caused mainly by Monsignor Monsengwo. By demonstrating clearly his support for the Union for Democracy and Social Progress [UDPS], the Catholic prelate has not succeeded in placing his church in the middle of the village. Concerning, in particular, the Tshisekedi government, everyone is aware that the one-sided government resulting from the national sovereign government was not representative of all the regions and all the political platforms in the country. Monsignor Monsengwo, a hardened instigator of the blocking of several initiatives for negotiations between Zaire's various political platforms, is no longer qualified to preach dialogue. Indeed, Monsignor Monsengwo, out of fidelity to the UDPS and out of solidarity with Mr. Tshisekedi in his senseless step to demonetize the 5 million zaire currency note, has

unilaterally put an end to the reconciliation process initiated by the head of state on 27 October 1992.

How can Monsignor Monsengwo still preach reconciliation when on 27 October 1992 he refused to accept the hand of friendship extended to him by the speaker of the National Assembly? By that inhuman gesture, he had demonstrated his deep-seated hatred and his feelings of rancor. He is a pastor to whom it is recommended to love his fellow men created in the image of God and to resemble Him whom he pretends to serve. By interrupting on several occasions the running of national sovereign conference deliberations to travel to Europe to receive directives from his masterminds, Monsignor Monsengwo has confirmed to our people his status of a local lackey of neo-colonialism. His incessant calls for the intervention of foreign troops have made him guilty of high treason. Based upon the foregoing, ADELI is of the opinion that Monsignor Monsengwo has thus missed an opportunity to keep his mouth shut.

Now that a government representative of all the country's political platforms and of all our rural regions has been formed, now that the National Assembly composed of members elected from all our zones has been rehabilitated, now that all bodies carved out of decentralized organizations have been rehabilitated, now that a draft on the Harmonized Constitutional Text on a transition period without conflict is being examined by the parliament—it has been voted upon—the unfortunate and irresponsible statement made by Monsignor Monsengwo is a slap and an unacceptable insult to our growing democracy. To quote one poet, ADELI reminds Monsignor Monsengwo that if playing politics is not one's profession, one should instead become a sacristan, if such is one's vocation.

ADELI makes an appeal to all forces for true change to come together and to join Prime Minister Faustin Birindwa in order to block the way for any political adventurism contrary to our people's supreme interests.

Issued in Kinshasa on 31 March 1993. Signed for ADELI: Chairman, Jean Nguz A Karl-I-Bond.

Ethiopia

Meles Meets Somali Council of Sages 30 Mar

EA3103212193 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia in Somali to Neighboring Countries 1200 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Text] President Meles Zenawi met and held talks on 30 March with the executive committee of the Somali Council of Sages recently established in Addis Ababa. The members of the executive committee expressed profound gratitude to President Meles Zenawi for his great efforts towards facilitating peace and stability in Somalia and the recently concluded agreements in Addis Ababa. They also said the steps taken by President Meles Zenawi would go a long way towards promoting general stability in the Horn of Africa and bringing its people closer together. For his part, President Meles Zenawi called on the Council of Sages and its executive committee to strive vigorously towards restoring the country's peace, stability, and dignity.

Present during the occasion was Dr. 'Abd al-Majid Husayn, the Ethiopian minister of external economic cooperation.

Kenya

Moi Says 'Not at War' With IMF, World Bank, Donors

EA3103154393 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1000 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Excerpt] President Daniel arap Moi today made it clear that Kenya was not at war with either the IMF, the World Bank, or any donor country. He said Kenya had only put a brake on the implementation of the Structural Adjustment Program to avoid a possible crisis. The president said he would undertake to discuss the issue

with the World Bank with emphasis on the social dimension of the proposals by donor agencies. President Moi pointed out that implementation of certain conditions needed financial back-up so that the real purchasing power of the common people is not eroded.

He was speaking at State House, Nairobi, when receiving credentials from the new ambassadors of Nepal and Switzerland. They are Mr. Jitendra Raj Sharma and Mr. Hans-Peter Erismann, respectively. [passage omitted].

Moi Names Apaloo Chief Justice

EA3103153993 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1000 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Text] President Daniel arap Moi has today appointed Justice Fred [Kwasi] Apaloo as the chief justice of Kenya. The appointment takes effect from tomorrow, 1 April.

Justice Apaloo is currently a justice of the World Bank Administrative Tribunal. In his career, Justice Apaloo served as a judge of the High Court of Kenya from April 1986 to October the same year when he was appointed judge of the Court of Appeal for Kenya where he served until April 1989. Justice Apaloo was at one time in private practice in Ghana for 10 years before being appointed judge of the High Court and chief justice of that country from 1977 to January 1986.

President Moi has at the same time thanked Justice Alan Hancox, the outgoing chief justice, for his contribution to the administration of justice for a period of 36 years. In a statement, President Moi observed that Justice Hancox had not only served at all levels of judiciary but also as chairman of the Law Reform Commission, and also presided over the presidential commission into the insurance industry, among other assignments. He wished him the very best in his future undertakings.

Multiparty Forum Resumes, Accepts 8-Point Agenda*MB0104142693 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0849
GMT 1 Apr 93*

[Text] Johannesburg April 1 SAPA—The multiparty negotiating forum kicked off its meeting at the World Trade Centre, outside Johannesburg, on Thursday morning at 10.10am and within less than 30 minutes had accepted an eight-point agenda aimed at dealing with the technical aspects of the constitutional way forward.

Declaring the meeting open, the Bophuthatswana government's Mr Rowan Croijje, the current chairperson (the chairmanship will rotate over the two-day sessions among six people), asked the 26 political parties, homeland administrations and movements to observe a moment's silence.

Discussion then began on the draft agenda, with the kwaZulu government's Dr Ben Ngubane immediately proposing a separate item: "the form of state", be included on the agenda.

This was supported by some members of the Concerned South African Group (Cosag), including the Conservative Party's Tom Langley, but rejected by the African National Congress [ANC].

ANC Secretary General Cyril Ramaphosa argued the form of state could be discussed under the second agenda last item entitled: "The way forward and instructions to the negotiating council concerning the constitutional issue".

After several other speakers proposed a compromise, Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] Chairman Dr Frank Mdlalose sealed the argument when he said the question of a form of state could be discussed later on in the agenda and should not bog down the process.

Delegates then accepted the agenda, with the proviso that items of a constitutional nature could be raised either under the way forward or the transitional process, and that the form of state need not be a separate item.

Approves Draft Resolution on Violence*MB0104143893 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1404
GMT 1 Apr 93*

[By Neil Lewis]

[Text] Johannesburg April 1 SAPA—The 26 political parties, organisations and homeland administrations at the multiparty negotiating forum at the World Trade Centre, outside Johannesburg, on Thursday [1 April] unanimously accepted a draft resolution on violence with the proviso that a list of issues from dissenting groups be dealt with by the forum's negotiating council.

After strong debate, during which the Conservative Party [CP] tabled its own resolution on violence, the

forum accepted that all dissenting voices be heard within the negotiating council, which will finalise a resolution on political conflict.

While unequivocally committing delegations to effective joint action by all to eradicate violence and to peaceful negotiations as the only way to resolve differences, the resolution said:

"The negotiating forum ... therefore resolves to:

"—identify those issues that cause violence, which threaten the negotiating process and undermine the effective implementation of the National Peace Accord; and,

"—mandate the negotiating council to establish what urgent steps and mechanisms are required to resolve the above issues as a matter of national priority. The negotiating council shall report to the next meeting of the negotiating forum."

The CP, while initially rejecting out of hand the resolution, later accepted that its own proposal, dealing with the armed wings of the African National Congress [ANC] and the Pan Africanist Congress [PAC], Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation] (MK) and the Azanian Peoples Liberation Army, (APLA), could be dealt with by the negotiating council instead of by the forum meeting on Thursday.

When the CP first rejected the resolution, the leader of the party's delegation, Mr. Tom Langley, said the disbanding of MK and APLA was the only way to move forward with the negotiations process.

"We submit that the only effective way to deal with it (violence) is to disband the culprit organisations, namely MK and APLA, as a pre-requisite to the continuation of any constitutional negotiations.

"Violence has escalated in a shocking manner. The resolution now before us does not address the issue in any other way than before. It thus serves no purpose," said Mr. Langley.

However, his position was rejected by the majority of other participants who noted that the draft resolution merely called for the negotiating council [NC] to allow political leaders to grapple with the problem.

A commitment was therefore needed from all participants for the council to handle the matter, which was agreed to by the CP after the house accepted the rightwing party could table its a separate resolution before the NC.

The Inkatha Freedom Party, the National Party, the ANC, the PAC and the SA [South Africa] Government, as well as other smaller groups, endorsed sending the resolution back to the negotiating council where annexures and additions could be dealt with.

It is now in the hands of the council to work out a compromise to suit participants.

NP Urges Signing Peace Accord

MB0104114793 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1051
GMT 1 Apr 93

[Text] Johannesburg April 1 SAPA—The National Party [NP] on Thursday [1 April] proposed to the multiparty negotiating forum that the signing of the National Peace Accord [NPA] be a prerequisite to further participation in the forum.

NP delegate and Manpower Minister Leon Wessels was speaking in reaction to a resolution presented to the conference dealing with the thorny question of violence throughout the country.

The draft resolution on violence presented to the forum by Mr Pravin Gordhan, of the Natal Indian Congress, calls on all participants to condemn without reservation the "wanton killing and maiming of the citizens of our country".

It also calls on delegates to commit themselves to effective joint action leading to the reduction of violence and to the attainment of peace as soon as possible, while participants should also commit themselves "to peaceful negotiations as the only way to resolve differences".

The draft resolution further calls on delegates to resolve to:

- identify issues that cause violence and which threaten the negotiating process and the effective implementation of the National Peace accord; and,
- mandate the negotiating council to establish what urgent steps and mechanisms are needed to resolve the violence as a matter of national priority. The council should report on this at a future meeting of the negotiating forum.

In his input, Mr Wessels said words were no longer sufficient.

"Constructive action must be implemented. The NP considers it, therefore, necessary that all participants who have not yet signed the peace accord, should do so immediately. Should they fail to comply, their participation in the negotiating process can no longer be considered as serious.

"We propose that the signing of the peace accord and its proper implementation should be a prerequisite for further participation."

Mr Wessels mentioned the Pan-Africanist Congress [PAC] and the Transkei government, both non-signatories to the NPA.

"I would like to pose the question whether an organisation such as the PAC, for example, can be taken seriously

when they commit themselves in this forum to a resolution demanding that they should work relentlessly to end violence, yet within days fail to distance themselves from the atrocious killings of innocent civilians for which APLA (the Azanian Peoples Liberation Army, the armed wing of the PAC) unashamedly and openly claims responsibility."

He also added the Transkei government should react swiftly and responsibly to the preliminary findings of the Goldstone Commission, which said the Transkei harboured APLA bases.

PAC Publicity Director Barney Desai said statistics showed the SA Police had been the subject of more prosecutions and convictions for violence than APLA, yet the PAC was being singled out for attack.

If all the Goldstone reports were taken into consideration, they would indicate that the "PAC has the cleanest hands of all."

Mr Desai called for the withdrawal of South African troops from the Transkei border, and the release of detained Pan-Africanist Student Organisation members.

Once a transitional authority had been installed, Mr Desai said, there would be no need for violence because the country would have been moved off the apartheid road.

Political leaders should take the responsibility for ending township violence.

The very people who had signed the peace accord were responsible for the carnage.

The PAC was not party to the senseless township violence, and the PAC and APLA were opposed to the killing of women and children, Mr Desai said.

In his input on behalf of the SA government, Minister of Law and Order Hernus Kriel said it was essential the security forces were supported by every party and political organisation in combating violence.

"We would expect every party and organisation and each leader of these organisations to take steps to assist curbing the horrendous spiral of violence.

"The bare fact... is that our society is currently literally in the process of destruction. We will have to stop this. The new South African cannot be built on death and destruction," said Mr Kriel.

After spelling out the additional action taken by the SA Police and the SA Defence Force to counter the violence, Mr Kriel added the question of private armies had to be addressed now in concrete and practical terms.

Arms caches would have to be uncovered and brought under control, trained personnel would have to be controlled and disciplined and further recruitment had to be terminated, he said.

Warrant for Alexander Arrest Withdrawn After Arrival*MB0104151793 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1400 GMT 1 Apr 93*

[Text] A warrant for the arrest of the secretary general of the PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress], Mr. Benny Alexander, has been withdrawn after he arrived at the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court on his own initiative to face fraud charges. The warrant was issued when he failed to show up at court this morning because of his participation in the multiparty talks. The court accepted his explanation, and the case was postponed to the 9th of June.

State President's Office Responds to Holomisa Note*MB3103202293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1922 GMT 31 Mar 93*

[Text] Cape Town Mar 31 SAPA—It was a matter of concern that the Transkei government had made no attempt to verify its preposterous allegations against F W de Klerk and the South African Police [SAP], the State President's Office said on Wednesday [31 March] night.

Commenting on a note sent to Mr de Klerk on March 24 by Transkei's military ruler Maj-Gen Bantu Holomisa, the office said: "It is not the intention to respond to the provocative, threatening and insulting parts of the note".

The allegation that the state president had issued an order for Azanian People's Liberation Army [APLA] members living in the Transkei to be wiped out was preposterous.

"Such an allegation, together with related allegations, reflect negatively on the Transkei government, not on President de Klerk.

"It is a matter of concern that the Transkei government obviously made no attempt to verify its allegations, which were given wide publicity."

Furthermore, the SAP was not aware of any security force members respraying cars and changing number plates to stage attacks on the Transkei, said the SP's [State President] office.

"The only vehicles being resprayed are heavy vehicles (Casspirs, Hippos etc) belonging to the Internal Stability Unit. These vehicles were previously in camouflage colours. Since the beginning of 1992, there has been a process of respraying them light green."

Commenting on Gen Holomisa's claim that members of SA's security forces had met in East London to finalise "ways and means of eliminating innocent people", the SP's Office said it was generally known the SAP held regular meetings where senior officers discussed matters connected with police work.

"Such a meeting was held on March 24 in East London, but the subject of the meeting was in no way related to the allegations made in the note under reply."

The central issue was the findings of the Goldstone Commission's report, not whether the two governments had a dispute with one another.

"What should be of concern is curbing violence which prima facie has emanated from Transkei."

Sends Diplomatic Note to Transkei*MB3103190593 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1850 GMT 31 Mar 93*

[Text] Cape Town Mar 31 SAPA—The Transkei cannot avoid its responsibility to co-operate with existing peace structures to end violence in South Africa, the State President's Office says in a diplomatic note to the homeland's ruler.

South Africa was reacting to allegations made by Maj-Gen Bantu Holomisa on March 24 that President F W de Klerk had ordered Azanian People's Liberation Army [APLA] members in the territory to be wiped out.

Gen Holomisa's claim "is so preposterous that it does not merit a response," said the State President's Office.

The note was the latest in a series of clashes between the nominally independent homeland and South Africa, mainly on the issue of whether APLA carried out terror attacks using the Transkei as a springboard.

Tensions resulted in the SA [South Africa] Police and defence force sealing off the homeland's borders on Tuesday.

Wednesday's note stated the SA Government "reserves the right to take appropriate measures to protect the interests of its citizens from further cross-border attacks by elements of APLA and any other such organisations operating from the territory of Transkei".

In its 15-page note the State President's Office said the central issue was the finding of a Goldstone Commission committee that APLA was waging a guerrilla war against police, soldiers, and white civilians.

It listed resolutions taken by the United Nations Security Council, and reports by UN special representative Cyrus Vance and envoys V Dayal and Ambassador T Vraalsen, urging all parties in South Africa to attempt to halt the violence in the country.

"Against this background, and bearing in mind that Gen Holomisa was permitted to address the UN Security Council on July 16, it would seem that the Transkei government cannot escape the responsibility to co-operate with the existing peace structures in seeking a solution to the problem of violence..."

The State President's Office then detailed the history of the inquiry into the existence of APLA bases and operations, saying the inquiry was initiated by the Goldstone Commission and not by the government.

This was after Mr Justice Richard Goldstone was approached by Gen Holomisa in December.

The judge, assuming he was being asked in his capacity as chairman of the commission, told Gen Holomisa he would be happy to support his proposal, but never agreed to a separate commission of inquiry.

The South African Government also did not agree to Mr Justice Goldstone be seconded to the Transkei to head a commission of inquiry.

In the end a committee of the Goldstone Commission investigated APLA, although the Transkei, the Pan Africanist Congress [PAC] and APLA refused to participate.

On March 15 the committee found APLA's high command was based in the Transkei, and called on the international community to withhold assistance to the PAC's armed wing.

The South African Government said all parties were again invited to provide evidence to the Goldstone Commission concerning any matters relating to its report.

"It is the standpoint of the South African Government that mere denials of the findings of the Goldstone Commission are not sufficient to prove that those findings are without substance," said the note.

ANC Natal Branch Questions Measures Against Transkei

MB3103182893 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1605 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Text] Durban March 31 SAPA—The African National Congress [ANC] southern Natal branch has demanded to know from President F W de Klerk if measures against Transkei are "a signal to permanently remove Maj-Gen Bantu Holomisa from society", SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reported on Wednesday [31 March].

Branch chairman Jeff Radebe said the decision by Mr de Klerk to place a security ring around Transkei was an attempt to punish Gen Holomisa for exposing the "infamous Operation Katzen" which allegedly concerned the destabilisation of Ciskei and the formation of a Xhosa-based bower bloc to oppose the ANC.

Senior Official Denies APLA Targeting White Civilians

MB3103170293 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Text] A senior APLA [Azanian People's Liberation Army] official has denied the group is targeting white civilians in South Africa. APLA Political Commissar

Romero Daniels said in a radio interview from Tanzania today that APLA is not going for civilian targets. He said the South African Police and security forces are still their targets and they are hitting them at will.

The South African Government has accused the PAC's [Pan-Africanist Congress] armed wing of a series of recent attacks on white civilians. Alleged APLA spokesmen have also claimed responsibility for attacks on white civilians. The South African Government threw a cordon around Transkei last night after accusing the homeland of harboring APLA guerrillas.

In Cape Town PAC Spokesman Jaki Seroke vowed the PAC would continue fighting, but will at the same time take part in democracy negotiations which start tomorrow. Responding to the move against Transkei, Seroke said the PAC regards this as an act of aggression. Seroke says APLA may escalate its armed struggle if its members are arrested in the Transkei crackdown.

Goldstone Gives PAC, APLA, Transkei 8 Apr Deadline

MB2903172493 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1605 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Pretoria Mar 29 SAPA—The Goldstone Commission has invited the Pan Africanist Congress [PAC], its military wing APLA [Azanian People's Liberation Army] and the Transkei government to give evidence to its committee inquiring into the Azanian People's Liberation Army. The committee's findings were provisional and the parties, which had so far responded only with "bare denials", had until April 8 to question the findings. Commission Chairman Mr Justice Richard Goldstone said on Monday [29 March] evening.

"If the commission receives no adequate response from those parties by 4 PM on Thursday April 8, it will assume that none of the provisional findings of the committee are questioned by them and that those findings can be regarded as being conclusive."

Mr Justice Goldstone said it was important that the provisional findings be tested by cross-examination and counter-evidence. "The commission has repeatedly invited in particular the Transkei authorities, APLA and the PAC to join the committee in its investigation.

"The only responses thus far from the Transkei and PAC have consisted of bare denials without any attempt to deal with a single factual provisional finding. There has been no response at all from APLA," Mr Justice Goldstone said in a statement.

The committee provisionally found that APLA had been operating from bases in the Transkei. The PAC and the Transkei government have refused to co-operate with the commission because it is a structure of the National Peace Accord to which they are not signatories, and because it was set up by President F W de Klerk.

IFP: Goldstone Must Investigate MK Involvement in Crime*MB3003153293 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 30 Mar 93*

[Text] The Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] says it will call on the Goldstone Commission to investigate the alleged role of the ANC's [African National Congress] armed wing in robberies throughout the country. The IFP statement follows yesterday's rejection by MK [Umkhonto we Sizwe—ANC Military Wing] Chief of Staff, Siphwe Nyanda, of claims of MK involvement.

The IFP accuses Nyanda of being out of touch with his troops. Inkatha says evidence given in the Rand Supreme Court last week indicates that large amounts of money stolen was taken to the ANC Headquarters after Standard Bank and Fidelity Guards robberies in 1991. The IFP says this represents a damning indictment against the ANC and MK, and suggests a coordinated strategy to boost their coffers. The ANC has denied this and says the allegations are without substance, with pure fabrication that emanates from sick minds whose objective it is to cast doubt and suspicion on the ANC.

Human Rights Commission Reports on Political Violence*MB3103185293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1829 GMT 31 Mar 93*

[Text] Johannesburg Mar 31 SAPA—Political violence has claimed the lives of 27 people during the week ending on Tuesday [30 March], bringing the death toll for March to 139, the Human Rights Commission [HRC] said in its weekly repression report.

Twenty deaths occurred in Natal and four were in the PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] region, the report issued on Wednesday said. Security force action accounted for one death and two policemen were killed by unknown attackers.

In Natal most of the deaths occurred in Ezimbokodweni and Mehlamnyama on the South Coast where three and six people were killed respectively.

In Durban, five people were killed in separate incidents in kwaMakhuta, kwaMashu and Umlazi.

Two people were killed in the midlands areas of Phateni and Happy Valley near Pietermaritzburg and on the north coast two people were killed in Esikhaweni.

The report said the deaths in the PWV region occurred in Soweto where an African National Congress official was killed by unknown gunmen and in the Vaal Triangle where a policeman was killed.

Two people were also killed in separate attacks related to taxi conflicts in Soweto and Alexandra.

At Tigrane in the western Transvaal a policeman was also fatally shot, the HRC said.

Official Denies Bugging Lebowa Minister's Office*MB3103172493 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1459 GMT 31 Mar 93*

[Text] Lebowakgomo March 31 SAPA—South African Government official Boet Fick, seconded to the Lebowa government as secretary of the Lebowa Chief Minister's Department, on Wednesday [31 March] expressed shock at his dismissal by Chief Minister Nelson Ramodike, SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reported.

Mr Ramodike said he held Mr Fick responsible for bugging devices claimed to have been found in a Lebowa cabinet room and in the Chief Minister's Office at Lebowakgomo.

Mr Fick, regarded as one of the homeland's most senior officials, denied having been involved in any irregularities. He said technical work on government premises was the responsibility of the Department of Works, and the Department of Law and Order was responsible for security.

He said his loyalty remained with the Lebowa cabinet and he would continue to be of assistance if asked.

Mr Fick said he was in any event due to retire on Wednesday.

His dismissal is effective from Thursday.

Mr Ramodike on Tuesday claimed there were plots to assassinate him and demanded the South African Government recall all seconded white technicians attached to the Department of Works and Transport. They had been placed in his offices without the approval of the cabinet, he said.

The chief minister also claimed "wicked" methods were being used by groups of whites and individuals in the homeland to recruit traditional leaders to overthrow his government.

Paper Notes Secret Nuclear Deals With Israel*MB3103140093 Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English 28 Mar 93 pp 1, 2*

[Report by Des Blow, investigations editor: "Nuke Bombshell"]

[Text] CITY PRESS can today reveal that SA [South Africa] and Israel assisted one another in the development of nuclear warheads in the late 1970s when John Vorster was still in power.

There were at least four highly secretive deals between the two countries connected with the development of nuclear weapons.

Yet on June 28 1991, Foreign Minister Pik Botha stated that SA had never tested nuclear weapons nor had it ever co-operated with any other country in making them.

The sale of "yellow cake" (uranium oxide), a by-product of SA's gold mines which could be enriched for nuclear energy, was strictly controlled internationally and Israel was unable to obtain the many tons needed to produce nuclear weapons.

SA, on the other hand, was unable to obtain tritium, a radioactive isotope of hydrogen, necessary to explode a nuclear device and which was only obtainable from the United States and Russia.

A deal was struck between John Vorster and the Israeli Prime Minister's Council for Scientific Liaison which was involved in the clandestine purchasing for Israel of nuclear materials. However, SA's Minister of Mines at the time, Piet Koornhof, was against the deal.

Vorster replaced Koornhof as Minister of Mines with Fanie Botha, who was in favour of the arrangement.

Fifty [metric] tons was shipped to Israel and in return Israel supplied SA with 30 grams of tritium—enough to make 12 atom bombs.

The code name used for tritium was "Teeblare" (tea leaves).

It was delivered to SA in small quantities over a year between 1977 and 1978.

Vorster and Gen "Lang" Hendrik van der Bergh, former head of the Bureau for State Security (Boss), worked on the "need-to-know" principle, only informing people like Fanie Botha and Dr Ampie le Roux who was the then chairman of the Uranium Enrichment Corporation (Ucor).

In a third secretive deal, SA sent a further 50 [metric] tons of "yellow cake" to Israel, but this was later released for Israel's own use.

When Vorster was compelled to resign in 1978 after the information scandal, some of the deals had not yet been completed and were done so under the new State President P.W. Botha.

However, until State President F.W. de Klerk's admission this week that SA had manufactured six nuclear bombs, the government—from state presidents down—had always denied that SA had the bomb.

It is only now, after the six bombs have been dismantled and it seems inevitable that the Nationalist government will be out of power shortly, that De Klerk has "come clean" and admitted that SA had nuclear bombs for years.

In 1977, during the height of the nuclear weapon connivance between SA and Israel, Prime Minister John Vorster assured President Jimmy Carter of the U.S. in a personal message that SA did not have, nor did it intend to develop, nuclear explosive devices for any purpose.

The last denial came only three weeks ago on March 6, when the head of the state-owned Atomic Energy Corporation, Dr Waldo Strumpf, said SA had provided the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) with an inventory of "every single gram of nuclear material" it possessed and that SA had only developed its nuclear programme to produce electricity and had nothing to hide.

This is the same Dr Strumpf who explained on TV on Thursday [25 March] night that SA had dismantled six nuclear bombs.

In June 1978 Dr Ampie Roux, who was in on the secret of the bomb from the start, echoed Vorster's denial, and in April 1979, State President P.W. Botha who followed Vorster into office, said although SA had the know-how to manufacture the bomb, it planned rather to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

During the next few years the denials continued, although, according to President de Klerk's statement this week, SA only started dismantling the bombs in 1990.

The 30 grams of tritium supplied to SA by Israel was enough to manufacture explosive devices for 12 atomic bombs but De Klerk claims there were only plans for seven and that only six were manufactured.

In 1979, after SA had been in possession of the tritium for more than a year there was a "double flash" over the south Atlantic—which overseas scientists suspected was a nuclear explosion—and accusations were levelled that SA had exploded an experimental nuclear device: the government denied emphatically they were responsible and once again denied that the country had any nuclear weapons.

There were also accusations that it was a joint Israel-South African experiment, but this too was denied.

This week Dr Strumpf repeated that SA had never ever tested any of the bombs manufactured in SA, yet he said he saw no reason why the six bombs would not have worked.

In October 1991 SA signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty with the IAEA, which has already since carried out 115 inspections in SA—and found nothing.

SADF Head Interviewed on Military Expenditure

MB2803135993 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 28 Mar 93 p 43

[SADF Head General Kat Liebenberg Interview with Charis Perkins: "Cuts Haven't Blunted the SADF Blade"]

[Text] The past four years have not been easy for General Kat Liebenberg, who joined the South African Defence Force [SADF] in 1955 after completing a BA law degree at Stellenbosch University.

Due to retire towards the end of this year, he has watched the power of the SADF diminish—and been helpless to stop it.

The role of the military has changed from that of conventional warfare to keeping a watchful eye on the borders and helping the police maintain law and order.

Capital projects have been halted, development programmes for sophisticated weaponry have been stopped, staff have been retrenched. Morale is low.

General Liebenberg passionately believes a strong defence force is pivotal to a stable society. "Some people say we now have peace and question the need for a defence force. But the role of a defence force is to protect the sovereignty of the state. It needs to project a credible deterrent. It needs to be seen as a formidable force.

"We appreciate the need to change priorities in government spending, but we have reached a bottom line," he said.

He is concerned that cutbacks in capital projects will adversely affect future effectiveness. "The ratio between capital spending on major equipment and the running budget is becoming unacceptable. We used to have one of the best ratios in the world, spending half our budget on capital cost and half on running costs.

"Now we are approaching a one-third capital ratio. I say that is dangerous. "It takes up to 20 years to produce a tank. We have to start new projects for the year 2000 now, or we will run out of heavy conventional equipment.

"The present cutbacks don't mean there's an immediate or short-term risk, but there is a risk for the future.

"A defence force is like an insurance policy, and it's up to the future government to decide what sort of insurance policy it needs and what sort of premiums it is prepared to pay."

Last year, 5,974 SADF members were retrenched, but General Liebenberg thinks further staff cuts are unlikely.

"I don't foresee further major retrenchments, but we do intend scaling down by natural attrition.

"So far, the cutbacks have not affected our operational capabilities. We have cut back at logistical and administrative levels, but we have not blunted the sharp edge. "We have not diminished the number of troops we can deploy in an internal situation. We still have enough feet on the ground."

But he opposes an end to conscription.

"Unless a multi-party forum agrees on a new system, it would be difficult to end conscription, and I think it would be pie-in-the-sky to do away with it altogether.

"The military has always relied heavily on part-time forces because it cannot afford a fulltime force.

"My Minister is on record as saying that the July intake will go ahead. Of course, it is a problem that conscription is only for whites, but we cannot change that without agreement from extra-parliamentary groups."

Uncertainty about the future has undermined morale but, says General Liebenberg, "we are doing as much as we possibly can to keep people informed—but it is a difficult task."

Outgoing Defense Minister Speaks at Farewell Parade

MB2903174193 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1653 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Pretoria Mar 29 SAPA—The government and the liberation movements should close the books on past deeds which had cost innocent human lives and should focus on the future, outgoing Defence Minister Gene Louw said on Monday [29 March]. Speaking at his farewell parade at Voortrekkerhoogte after 10 months as defence minister, Mr Louw also dismissed speculation that President F W de Klerk was unable to see eye to eye with the SADF's [South African Defense Force] top structure. "This is devoid of all truth," Mr Louw said.

Mr Louw said he would not have approved many of the SADF's covert projects if they had been presented to him now in 1993. But most of the projects had served a worthwhile purpose in the 1980s, at a time of bombs exploding indiscriminately and horrific terror attacks.

The current call-up of Commando and Citizen Force members, in line with the government's strategy to curtail violence, would see a doubling and tripling of the number of security force members on the ground. Citizen Force and Commando members should not make the army wait, and heed the call-up. "The service which they have been called on to perform is in the best interests of the country."

Discussing the Civil Co-operation Bureau, Mr Louw said if former members did not cease their recalcitrant demands and veiled threats against the government, they should turn to the courts for relief.

He defended the government's decision to purchase Swiss Pilatus trainer aircraft for the SAAF [South African Air Force], saying the local product would have cost R[and]100 million more, would have meant serious problems with the delivery period, had been unable to pass efficacy tests, and did not enjoy the trust of the SAAF's personnel and test pilots. All the Pilatus purchase agreements had been concluded and work was being made of its delivery.

—Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee will add defence to his portfolio.

State Used 'Covert Action' To Mobilise Homelands

MB0104142793 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2102 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Text] Parliament March 31 SAPA—The government had instituted covert action during the 1980s to mobilise homeland leaders against the African National Congress [ANC] as part of the total strategy, Mr Kobus Jordaan (DP Umhlanga) said on Wednesday [31 March].

Speaking during the budget debate, he said he had received documents about the plan from an unknown informant during September 1990.

The plan involved supplying homeland leaders with information and disinformation obtained from the intelligence community. The defence force had also become involved, Gen Tienie Groenewald playing a key role.

The documents named Inkatha Freedom Party official Mr Walter Felgate and Bophuthatswana cabinet minister Mr Rowan Cronje as "personalities who played an integral part" in winning the hearts and minds of homeland leaders.

Mr Felgate's work with Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi was described as "an absolute success story" while Mr Cronje had initially been unsuccessful in Ciskei. In Bophuthatswana, he later proved very successful.

Mr Jordaan said other aspects of the secret plan involved training of Inkatha members in the Caprivi and Israel and the establishment of an organisation called FIDA [Federal Independent Democratic Alliance], which was headed by Mr John Gogotya.

In November last year, he received further documentation from his informant which indicated that the homeland network was still operational. Homeland contacts and elements within the security community were co-operating to destroy the negotiation process.

The documents also indicated that the intelligence community's infiltration of extra-parliamentary organisations and homelands remained very good. The government was kept informed about the political programmes and strategies of other parties.

COSATU Reaffirms Reconstruction Program, Support for ANC

MB2903181193 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1729 GMT 29 Mar 93

[SAPA PR Wire Service issued by COSATU]

[Text] Over 300 worker leaders attended COSATU's [Congress of South African Trade Unions] campaigns conference, which sat from March 26-28 1993. The

conference afforded us the opportunity to assess developments of central importance to the trade union movement, and to plan a programme for the year ahead. Outlined below are some of the issues addressed at the conference which have major implications for the country as a whole, and not just the trade union movement:

1. The conference endorsed the proposal for a programme of reconstruction and development, which COSATU is putting forward for discussion by our general membership, the tripartite alliance and other organisations such as students, civics, etc. The programme will propose a planned, extensive restructuring of our society both at the socio-economic level, and at the level of the state, to ensure that a new democracy effectively addresses the needs of the majority. COSATU hopes to see an election platform which incorporates the key elements of such a programme, and to work out a coherent and systematic plan as to how such a programme will be implemented. We will be holding a special congress in September this year, where our proposals on the reconstruction programme will be finalised, including the idea of a signed reconstruction accord with the ANC [African National Congress].

Conference resolved to throw COSATU's full weight behind the ANC in the upcoming election campaign. We will be embarking on our own voter education programme to ensure that as many workers go to the polls as possible, understanding fully the issues at stake in the elections.

On April 14th COSATU leaders will address meetings in thousands of COSATU-organised workplaces around the country. This massive exercise in democracy will focus on discussions around the reconstruction programme and the elections. These discussions will then be fed back into COSATU constitutional structures in order to shape our approach to the elections and the task of reconstruction.

2. Reports received from affiliates revealed that there is a systematic attack on centralised collective bargaining throughout the economy, affecting both the public and private sector. It has become clear that the anti-union proposals contained in Derek Keys normative economic plan and the governments' bill of rights are not, as is claimed, mere discussion points fed into a debate. Rather they are part of a coherent strategy, which has already begun to be implemented, a strategy which threatens to plunge our entire industrial relations framework into a deep crisis.

COSATU will intervene directly to assist affiliates where unilateral actions are being taken by employers or the state to collapse central bargaining structures, as in the building industry and others. Further we will be raising the issue sharply at the NEF [National Economic Forum] that it is contradictory to be negotiating at national level, when at industry or sector level a deliberate policy is being implemented of sabotaging negotiations forums.

3. Conference addressed the crisis in the public sector, including education, brought about by the governments high-handed and unilateral actions in enforcing a cut in real wages, and retrenchments of workers. COSATU will be implementing a programme of action to support the demands of public sector workers for a living wage and one LRA [Labor Relations Act], and to reverse unilateral public sector cuts, particularly where these cuts are reducing services to communities which are already chronically underserved. Marches will be held on May 8th to focus on the crisis in the public sector. Further COSATU will continue to hold a series of meetings with government to press home to them the potential of his developing into a major national crisis, as we are already seeing with the education crisis.

4. Conference condemned the wholesale attack on living standards of workers and the poor. While real wages are declining, employers in every sector are indulging in an orgy of retrenchments. At the same time prices are rising at a rapid rate. Derek Keys announcement of VAT and fuel increases has already set up a pattern of price rises, including transport, postage etc. COSATU will be meeting with our allies to look at how to monitor profiteering, and stop the wave of increases hitting the person in the street. We will also take forward our campaign for zero-rating of medicines, electricity and water, and against the rise in VAT.

COSATU

is undertaking an extensive assessment of the retrenchments currently taking place. Based on this we will launch a national campaign against retrenchments, at the same time as taking forward our campaigns for job creation through public works and industrial restructuring.

5.

The conference condemned the intransigence of the present regime in perpetuating its control of SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation]. Bearing in mind that the term of office of the current board ends this Wednesday (March 31), only an urgent resolution of this deadlock will avoid a major programme of action targetted at SABC. If no resolution is found, COSATU has committed itself to campaign for a total boycott of SABC licenses, and to bring pressure on advertisers in organised COSATU factories to withdraw their advertising.

6. COSATU will be embarking on a major process of going to workers to report on these and other decisions, to ensure maximum involvement of workers and to empower them to intervene in the key political and economic issues of the day, including in the area of policy development. Conference stressed the importance of a special organisational focus on unorganised workers, women and people in the rural areas.

This process of report-backs will include an ongoing evaluation of existing negotiations around the areas listed above. Deadlines will be set, to ensure that these negotiations don't drag out endlessly without producing

results. Where we arrive at a major deadlock, decisions will then be taken on what national action will be embarked on.

Please note: Documents of the campaign conference are still being finalised. An in-depth briefing will be held on Wednesday March 31 at 14h00 at COSATU HQ, where documents will be provided to the press. Any media wishing to attend the briefing should contact Neil Coleman at 492 1440.

Political Analysts on Prospects for Race War

MB0104143393 Johannesburg VRYE WEEKBLAD in Afrikaans 26 Mar-1 Apr 93 p 7

[Article by Ina van der Linde: "South Africa's Worst Nightmare Could Come True"—first paragraph is VRYE WEEKBLAD introduction]

[Text] The murder of white motorists in the Vaal Triangle, and other racial and revenge attacks over the past week, seen in the context of the Afrikaner Resistance Movement's [AWB] retaliatory unit, and the launching of the Conservative Party's mysterious mobilization action, have made many South Africans wonder if the nightmare that has existed over decades is not perhaps materializing: a bloody communal war between white and black. Ina van der Linde has, amidst unprecedented paranoia and militant utterances from various sources, spoken to several political analysts.

A few more random Azanian People's Liberation Army [APLA] murders, and a few retaliatory attacks by a few right-wing extremists, and the people of South Africa will become immersed in racial hatred and polarization never before seen in the country. The consequences thereof could, as a very possible scenario, lead to a situation currently being experienced in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

One wonders whether this is the beginning of a race war which was predicted by one of Africa's most renowned black thinkers, Ali Mazrui, in his book CULTURAL FORCES IN WORLD POLITICS (1990). He writes in the book as if it's an accepted fact that only a race war can precede a black victory.

Dr. Wim Booysse, risk consultant in Pretoria and who has written his doctoral thesis on the Pan-Africanist Congress [PAC], writes: "The attacks on whites, and in particular on children, is a new dimension in the low-level war which has been going on for the past few years. Its purpose is possibly to act as agents provocateurs to drive to the most extreme white and black polarization, and to play communities against each other as is the case in Natal.

"Should they succeed in provoking a white-black conflict, it will culminate in a drawn-out racial war such as in Bosnia-Herzegovina, which will make the killing fields of Natal look tame."

South African Institute of Race Relations Vice President Lawrence Schlemmer is more reserved. "We are very concerned about the possibility of a severe counterreaction from some whites, causing the violence to spread. But I still do not see this as the start of a race war.

"My feeling is that these actions take place so openly that it is only a matter of time before the culprits are traced, arrested, and brought to trial, and that should ease minds."

Another reason why we cannot speak of a race war, is because the attacks are isolated and only occur in specific areas. The cases are still fewer than the incidence of political attacks.

And Schlemmer adds, a civil war in a country in which the armed forces are still intact, is virtually impossible. It can only happen where the security forces are divided, or are in the process of disintegrating.

A strong possibility exists that due to the tremendous pressure from all avenues being exerted on PAC, they could well employ a strategy to distance themselves from attacks on whites. The result of this could be that the attacks become regarded as deviations, and this will also have a calming effect," Schlemmer says.

He distinguishes between different forms of violence currently evident in South Africa. There is the type of violence which comes as a result of estrangement of people, such as the lawless youth, in which unemployment plays a significant role. It could have political ties, but is not necessarily political.

The second type of violence is found in many parts of Natal. The cause is the intense vying for political regions, or the occupation of political areas. "This is a comparative sort of violence which is characteristic of the period just before an election. It can be expected to get more intense the closer we get to the election." But the third type of violence can be labelled as a conspiracy being carried out by small groups. It is prevalent throughout the world, and could be terroristic in nature. Its aim is to instill fear and anxiety, in other words, a political assertion of a brutal and very aggressive nature.

"I use the word terrorism in a strictly technical sense—not in the umbrella sense as has often been used in the past—namely, a specific technique in politics to terrorize and frighten people."

Schlemmer says on the one hand, this type of terrorism could be directed at destabilizing a country or a process, such as the negotiation process underway in the country. The latter is the so-called "third force", which, in the past, has been responsible for disrupting the negotiation process. The latest events indicate that there are more than one "third or hidden force" involved in the destabilizing of the country.

Schlemmer says further: "I find it difficult to categorize the violence in the Vaal Triangle and the eastern Cape. We do not know if it is a conspiracy of a terrorist nature,

or whether it is intended to destabilize the political process. It could have both objectives.

"I think in any case that this is the first time that violence is being used deliberately to elicit a counter reaction. These people know that shooting children on their way to school, will get reaction, and at one time or another, an irrational reaction."

In the past, many horrific deeds were committed. "But even the killing of the six school children in the Table Mountain area could have been intended for a specific political leader who was to have been in the pick-up truck in which the victims were. The intention was to kill kids.

"The attacks on whites apparently had children as targets. I think this is something new. For the first time, tempers can fly high in communities where violence occurs. It now appears as if every white transporting his child to school in that part of the world, has become a potential target."

On this, Booyse and Dr. Chris de Kok, both of the Institute for Race Relations, are in agreement. De Kok says the latest attacks on whites, linked to the violent crime, could stir up white fear. Weapon purchases have of late escalated dramatically. The AWB [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] alleges people are beginning to organize themselves against counter attacks, and this could further aggravate the race conflict. The moment rumors begin circulating, levels of fear rise, people arm themselves, and violence then gets a dynamic of revenge and retaliation.

De Kok and Booyse are of the opinion that the aim of such action could also be that APLA, generally suspected of the action, hopes, in this way, to get more support from radical black groups than by negotiating.

On this Schlemmer says: "The PAC obviously has a specific problem. From various political surveys, my own and those of other organizations, it appears that the PAC is not getting the support it expects. It is lagging far behind the ANC [African National Congress], NP [National Party], and the IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party]. It is doubtful whether it will improve its support by negotiating. Within the party, there is a feeling that dissidents should be exploited in order to attract the more hostile, racially inclined elements within the black community.

Schlemmer says: "My own opinion is that they are going to lose more support as a result of this action. Surveys thus far show that any party which openly indulges in violence, will thereby lose support to a lesser or greater extent, within the broader black community.

*** Bekkersdal Mood, Atmospherics Described**

93AF0400D Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English 8 Jan 93 p 5

[Article by Bafana Khumalo: "A Small Town Prepares for War"; italicized words as published]

[Text] On the surface, Bekkersdal seems calm. People are getting on and off mini-buses at the taxi-rank—the focus of the latest battle to rip this western Transvaal township apart.

For years, the main flashpoint in Bekkersdal was tension between the United Democratic Front [UDF], then the African National Congress [ANC], and the Azanian People's Organisation [AZAPO]. Bekkersdal is one of the few townships with a strong Azapo presence.

Recently the line of cleavage shifted: Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] members began fighting Azapo. Then on Sunday, everything changed.

A group of youths hijacked a taxi for a joyride. IFP members chucked the youths out and confiscated the taxi. The taxi owner went to the ANC-aligned civic association for help, but when the civic confronted the IFP men, they said they would refer the matter to the local dispute resolution committee.

On Sunday afternoon two IFP men were stoned to death at the taxi rank; residents believe Azapo members were responsible.

It's Monday now, hours after IFP members have counter-attacked the taxi rank. In the adjacent Mandela Park shack settlement, ANC members are gearing for war.

In the township, a group of men stand one street away from a barricade, armed with metal rods, sticks and knives. A man shouts from down the street: "Don't talk to (reporters)."

As photographers begin taking pictures, a man who says he is an IFP member calls to order a youth who is posing with two knives. "You are giving us a bad reputation. What are you doing with those knives?" Nor will he allow pictures taken of men standing with sticks. "You see those men have weapons and I don't want to see any weapons (in the picture)."

Another IFP member, who says he is an induna, explains the beginnings of the strife in the township. "The problem started with young thugs attacking us and robbing us. When we tried to bring these children to order Azapo made it a political thing.

"They and the ANC are attacking us," he says. "Why don't you go and ask them at the squatter camp?"

The residents of the shack settlement, an ANC stronghold, are even more vigilant than the township residents.

Groups of blanketed men stand guard on street corners, spears, sticks and pangas protruding from their blankets in the sweltering heat.

"Today we will be ready for them," says a man who identifies himself as an ANC member. "These people came to the taxi rank and started shooting indiscriminately at commuters. They killed two of our members and two are in hospital."

He says angrily: "Today we see that Inkatha is preparing to attack us—and we are ready for it."

He catches sight of women standing close to a group of sentries and white reporters. "What are those women doing among those men, listening to English? Hey! *Nina nifunani kulawo madoda. Niwathanda kakhulu ne?* (Hey, you! what are you doing among those men, you really love them don't you?)," he shouts.

He says before a war men have to be strengthened and any contact with women saps their strength.

Another man whispers in his ear, and he then tells the others around him "*Asiyeni madoda!* (Let's go men)"—and they all move away. Other men emerge from houses draped in blankets, which are used to hide weapons when they are not carried openly. There is little conversation—those who speak do so in subdued tones.

They converge on the square in the middle of the squatter camp. Singing a mournful rumbling chant, they walk in a circle round an inyanga. On the ground are two tubs filled with water and muti. There is no rousing ululating, singing and dancing in this ceremony—they are preparing for war, solemnly. A number of women venture out of their house and view the spectacle from the safety of their makeshift stoeps.

"This makes us strong," says a man who identifies himself as an ANC official. "But we are not going to launch any attack. We are gathered here to defend ourselves."

A group of youngsters are watching the scene. Angrily they challenge the ANC official for selling them out to the whites. The official tries to plead with them but they converge on the reporters, shouting: "What are you doing here?" A man rounds up the journalists and, with the youths screaming behind him, chaperons them to their cars.

Later in a house in the township a man who claims to speak on behalf of the IFP says that Azapo started the violence by robbing IFP members. He concedes that the IFP attacked the taxi rank on Sunday and says: "If I have a problem, as I have had all this time, and no one does anything about it, it is better that I make that everybody's problem. Maybe now people will be aware of our plight."

Tonight, at least, the war will not begin. In the nearby South African Defence Force [SADF] base, troops are getting ready to seal off the squatter camp.

1 Apr Review of Press Editorials, Commentaries
MB0104141993

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Military Encirclement of Transkei 'Charade'—"There is an element of charade about South Africa's military encirclement of Transkei," according to a page 24 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 1 April. The action comes at a time when Transkei's reincorporation is "by common consent, virtually a fait accompli." Tensions are "running high" and the charade could "easily go awry." "If the charade becomes a tragedy, Transkei military ruler Bantu Holomisa will have to accept a major share of responsibility. His peremptory response to the Goldstone Commission report is dismissive, despite the report's conclusion that his junta turns a blind eye to APLA's [Azanian People's Liberation Army] use of Transkei as a springboard for attacks on South Africa. Declaring his innocence, he labels the commission a 'kangaroo court'. An urgent request from Judge Goldstone to Holomisa to present evidence to his commission is contemptuously rejected." "If Holomisa believes that the commission's terms are too narrow," there is "nothing stopping him appointing his own commission before Transkei is reabsorbed into South Africa."

BUSINESS DAY

Disruption of White Schools—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 1 April in a page 6 editorial states: "Between the bellicose threat of a National Education Coordinating Committee [NECC] official 'peacefully to disrupt white schools', and the stupidly paranoid reaction of a parents' representative who threatened

bloodshed against demonstrators, cool heads in government and the NECC had better get together and talk before more children become pawns in the political struggle."

SOWETAN

Holomisa Arrogance Against People 'Paying His Salary'—"General Bantu Holomisa describes South Africa's action to throw a ring of steel around his country as bellicose, a view that is faintly amusing," begins Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 1 April in a page 10 editorial. "Surely General Holomisa was leading with his political chin when he showed an unmistakable streak of arrogance against the people who have been paying his salary for so long. To add to the risible nature of this charade, Transkei, like most homelands, employed members of the very SADF [South African Defense Force] and SAP [South African Police] who are now showing such bellicosity against it. And while we are about castigating the Transkei, we do not believe South Africa is acting with any more dignity in the matter." SOWETAN warns South Africa to handle Transkei "with care and dignity." "There is obviously more than meets the eye to the current aggression that South Africa displays with such alacrity against Transkei."

CAPE TIMES

ANC Shows Commitment To Democracy—"The ANC has, clearly, emerged from being a sloganeering movement, rooted in pre-unbanning strategies and culture, into an organisation that is not only preparing to win democratic elections but is also developing policies for the future that have to be taken seriously by everyone," notes a page 6 editorial in Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 30 March. The ANC's "transformation emerged at a briefing of members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery Association at Hermanus over the weekend. It showed a commitment to democracy, a determination to win elections at the polls and the formulation of policy positions that can be assessed objectively."

Angola**Spokesman Outlines Principles for Peace Talks Resumption**

MB0104094093 London BBC World Service in Portuguese 2030 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Text] The Angolan Government has rejected proposals made by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], following the Abidjan talks, and denies that the city of Cuito has been captured by Savimbi's men. Goncalo de Carvalho interviewed Aldemiro da Conceicao, spokesman for the Angolan Presidency of the Republic, who said that talks will only take place if the Bicesse Accords, the September election results and the UN security Council resolutions are adhered to, and after UNITA stops the war.

[Da Conceicao] The Angolan Government reiterates its willingness to resume talks with the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]. The government is awaiting to be consulted by the United Nations in order to determine the date and venue of the talks. We think that the talks should be based on three fundamental principles. First, adherence to the Bicesse Accords and reiteration of their validity. Second, adherence to the election results and the legitimacy of the democratic institutions that have been established after those elections. Third, adherence to UN Security Council Resolutions 804 and 811.

The government believes that if those three principles are adhered to, it will be in a position to deal with other proposals that are likely to be submitted as a contribution to peace in Angola. Obviously, that has to be within the framework of the principles that we have outlined.

The question of a transitional government is in conflict with the principles contained in the Bicesse Accords and particularly with the election results.

[De Carvalho] Did the Luanda government in any way take part in the Abidjan talks?

[Da Conceicao] We did not take part in the bilateral talks between UNITA and representatives of the U.S. Administration. The Angolan Government did not take part in the talks.

[De Carvalho] But did you not meet the U.S. delegation?

[Da Conceicao] We do not deny that. In fact there were meetings, though our going to Abidjan was mainly designed to consult the Cote d'Ivoire Government.

[De Carvalho] Now, let us turn to the military situation. UNITA says it has taken Cuito and reports say that it is heading to Benguela and Lobito on the coast. Reports say that UNITA forces are deployed 25 km from Benguela.

[Da Conceicao] I can categorically deny those reports. They are not true. It is a lie. For instance, the Bie provincial radio station today reported to the national

radio's central studios. So, UNITA has not taken Cuito at all. Likewise, it is not true that UNITA is 25 km from Benguela. That is false.

[De Carvalho] But clashes continue to take place in Cuito.

[Da Conceicao] Like in most of the country. There is a declared war in Angola. UNITA is committed to war and as long as it adopts that stand, dialogue will always become more difficult to take place.

Government Allocates National Assembly Start-Up Budget

MB3103104993 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Text] The Angolan Government has allocated 500 billion new kwanzas as a start-up budget for the National Assembly. Speaking in parliament yesterday during the reading of the budget bill, Finance Minister Emanuel Carneiro said the National Assembly's budget and the State General Budget will be readjusted in four months' time.

National Assembly Chairman Fernando Franca van Dunem agreed with the government's position, praising it for allocating that amount. Van Dunem favors the payment of a basic salary without any allowances in line with the fund that has been earmarked. Some deputies disagreed with that position, arguing that their salaries should be retroactive.

Foreign Ministry Officials Receive French, Brazil Envoys

MB3103170493 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 30 Mar 93

[Text] There was intense diplomatic activity at the Angolan Foreign Affairs Ministry today. Deputy Foreign Minister Joao Miranda granted separate audiences to the French Ambassador Stanislas Filliol and Brazilian Ambassador Rui Antonio de Vasconcelos. The French ambassador handed him a note at the end of this three-year tour of duty in Angola and exchanged views on Angola's current political situation.

Deputy Foreign Minister George Chikoty also held a courtesy meeting with the French ambassador, with whom he discussed bilateral government issues. Minister Chikoty then received Mr. (Colin Voges), United Nations Children's Fund regional director for southern and eastern Africa, who has come to Angola to learn about the situation on the ground.

UNITA Condemns WFP for Favoring MPLA in Huambo, Bie

MB2803083993 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] The unbecoming and ridiculous behavior of Mrs. (Sayed Mercedes), World Food Program, WFP, coordinator for Angola is reaching hitherto unknown heights. First it was in Huambo, now it is in Bie, where People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] troops are in serious trouble and about to lose control over the city. The WFP's airlifts failed, so now it is urging a truce so it can distribute food among the people. This is ridiculous, because the WFP only comes to the people's rescue when the FAPLA forces are in trouble. Once clashes are over and conditions are in place for food to be distributed, the WFP turns a blind eye to people in need.

Reports from Bie say the local people see the WFP as nothing more or less than an organization which helps the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party in times of trouble.

Government-UNITA Clashes Continue

Mercenary Deaths 'Increasing'

MB0104093493 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 1 Apr 93

[Text] In the city of Soyo, the number of deaths among mercenaries in the service of multinational companies is increasing. Reports reaching our news desk from the Northern Front's General Staff, say that during the early hours of 31 March, a helicopter believed to be owned by the UPHIN [expansion unknown] consortium, with soldiers of fortune aboard, was captured and later destroyed by the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola. The helicopter was completely burned. The fate of the crew is still not known, but they would have been executed if there were mercenaries on board.

Meanwhile, fighting in Soyo continues with the brave soldiers showing operational and tactical superiority over Eduardo dos Santos' soldiers assisted by mercenaries.

FAPLA Soldiers Killed in Benguela 29 Mar

MB3103203493 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 1900 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Text] The Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] carried out a large scale attack on a People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] forward post in Sao Tomeio area, a few km from Lobito, in Benguela Province on 29 March. The FALA dealt a serious blow to the FAPLA-Riot Police forces. The enemy suffered some 21 troops killed and a number of soldiers wounded.

Our troops continue gathering weapons left behind by the FAPLA forces, who have sought refuge in Lobito.

UNITA Reports Successes in Bie City

MB3103202993 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 1900 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Text] People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] troops were flushed from a position in the city of Bie [Cuito]. The Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] troops captured large arms depots, with mostly Russian- and Spanish-made weaponry. Eduardo dos Santos' men fled in disarray, leaving a number of soldiers killed and wounded on the ground. One of those killed was Lieutenant Elias [name indistinct] Jota, Riot Police head of operations. Jardim Chiquito Prata, our correspondent in the Bie theater of war, reports captured and wounded FAPLA soldiers are already being assisted by the FALA health services.

Operations in Lunda Noted

MB3103201493 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 1900 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Text] The political and military situation in the two Lunda Provinces is far from relaxed [words indistinct] the (?theater) of war. Reports from the northeast front say Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] troops attacked a group of People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] soldiers at the point where (Dombe) and Cuilo Rivers meet. It has been confirmed that two FAPLA soldiers were killed. The FALA forces also captured one AK-47 rifle, one PKM submachine gun, and one [name indistinct], along with ammunition.

FAA General Staff Issues Statement

MB3103194593 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Statement by Brigadier Jose Manuel Jota, of the Angolan Armed Forces General Staff, on 31 March; place not given; first paragraph is studio introduction]

[Text] The Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] General Staff has said the country's military situation has not significantly changed over the last two days. FAA Spokesman Brigadier Jose Manuel Jota today reported the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] has been moving troops and war materiel in every part of Angolan territory. Military operations have been centering on the city of Cuito. UNITA has been shelling Cuito, Menongue, and Menongue Airport. Brigadier Jota said:

[Begin Jota recording] In concrete terms, clashes continue in the city of Cuito. The government forces managed to repel enemy attacks. As we have already reported, enemy forces were rolled back from areas they had occupied over the last few days. At this time, the enemy is regrouping west, south, and east of the city of Cuito and preparing new attacks. Meanwhile, the enemy has continued and intensified its shelling of the city and is preparing new raids.

Rather more sporadic shelling continues to occur in Menongue, against our forces' positions in general, and the airport in particular. The enemy has also been planting mines there, particularly along paths leading to plantations. They have ambushed and murdered civilians.

The UNITA forces have carried out some operations over this period: In Cuanza Norte Province on 29 March, a group of 200 armed UNITA men attacked FAA forces defending the bridge on Lucala River, or Lucala III Bridge, along the road between Zenza and Dondo. The enemy's principal aim was to destroy the two bridges: the road and the railroad bridges, thereby cutting links between the cities of Dondo and Luanda. In their response, our forces killed 36 UNITA soldiers, captured another 10, and captured four 60 mm mortars, four PKM submachine guns, two AK rifles, one RPK submachine gun, two M-79 rocket launchers, two RPG-7 rocket launchers, two rubber boats, and 500 kg of TNT explosives. Our soldiers also suffered some injuries. Three civilians, who lived in the vicinity of the bridge, were killed.

On 29 March, UNITA murdered three people in (Taco-Taco) area, 18 km from Jibala.

Also on 29 March, UNITA ambushed a civilian vehicle 62.5 km from Saurimo, killing five civilians, wounding four, and destroying the vehicle.

On 30 March, UNITA forces murdered a person 16 km from Luena.

Meanwhile, our forces also carried out some operations over this period. The following are noteworthy: On 29 March, they engaged in clashes against UNITA forces 23 km from Saurimo. It was a small mopping-up operation. They killed one UNITA soldier and captured assorted weapons.

On 30 March, our forces carried out a rapid strike operation against enemy forces grouping some 22 km from Menongue. Our forces killed five UNITA soldiers and captured three, including a captain. The FAA troops also captured (?three) weapons and freed 10 women, nine men, and 17 children. These were the more noteworthy operations by our forces.

Our forces also carried out other operations, but we do not believe they are significant enough to warrant their mention here. [end recording]

British Nationals Killed in Soyo

MB3103072993 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo
Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Text] Intense and fierce clashes continue to take place in Soyo. The situation was relatively calm in the past 48 hours after the latest clashes that lasted for five hours with frightening results. The situation in the Northern Front remains unchanged.

In the Bengo region, Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] troops are under siege and unable to move. Bengo residents currently living in Luanda are urged to remain there. They should not be deceived by the [words indistinct] propagandists who claim that they are in total control of Caxito. Anyone who ventures to go to Caxito could meet a disastrous fate because Bengo Province is a war zone.

In the city of Malanje, National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] troops have not lost any of the positions occupied in last month's counterattack. The Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] continue to occupy a section of the city of Malanje where clashes take place on daily basis.

FALA forces are still in control of the Provinces of M'banza Congo [as heard], Uige, and Cuanza Norte where the situation remains unchanged. There have been no enemy troop movements. The situation is normal.

Regarding the situation in Soyo, we would like to deny the shameless and unscrupulous People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] generals for saying that the mercenaries are in Soyo on vacation. Angolan and international public opinion cannot accept that. While the MPLA barked that the South Africans were supporting UNITA, it sent its envoys to South Africa to recruit mercenaries.

We are holding the passports of the two mercenaries who were abandoned at the front after being hit. The body of a third mercenary was burned beyond recognition inside one of the tanks destroyed by FALA's powerful antitank forces. So, we cannot identify him. It is worth mentioning that mercenary (Stewart) was found with identity card No. 49687693 issued by the Angolan Armed [FAA] Forces otherwise known as FAPLA. The identity card was issued early in March 1993 and is valid until 3 March 1997. That is, the MPLA has recruited the mercenaries until 1997.

Whereas we prefer to report the facts, we would like to give you details about the passports found on the mercenaries. One is a British passport No. 700385438 issued by the British Consulate [preceding two words in English], in Johannesburg, South Africa, on 6 December 1992. The passport holder is (Al Stewart Robbie), a British citizen [preceding two words in English] born in Ealing on 7 June 1948. Occupation: Soldier.

The other passport was issued in the name of Philip Robert Smith, No. 910540. He was born on 7 June 1951 in (Aldreigh Farm). We would like to apologize to our listeners in view of our difficulty in pronouncing this name. Smith is a British citizen [preceding two words in English]. Current occupation: Soldier.

It should be pointed out that the two passports do not have visas issued by the People's Republic of Angola.

In view of those facts, it would be useful if our stateless and ignorant colleagues in the People's Republic of

Angola media could stop talking about the balkanization of Angola. We understand that the reality is totally different. The MPLA is actually promoting division and everything that is wrong to our people. The mercenaries were killed in action. They were part of a joint FAPLA convoy. The three mercenaries were traveling in a T-55 tank which was completely burned.

Meanwhile, the FALA General Staff reports that 32-year-old South African Cornel Frank Taljaard was also killed.

At 0645 [0545 GMT] on 28 March, FALA thwarted an attempt to occupy Sacassange, a location in the outlying area of the city of Luena, Moxico Province. Our correspondent reports that Jose Eduardo dos Santos' troops lost four men when our forces attacked a joint Riot Police-FAA motorized convoy. The clashes lasted for 15 minutes, at the end of which the enemy fled in disarray, abandoning two AK's, four Portuguese-made machine guns, 1,200 rounds of ammunition of various calibers, 12 60-mm mortar shells, and one RPG-7 shell.

Malawi

President Banda Addresses Army Officers in Salima

MB0104063193 Blantyre Malawi Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1600 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Text] His Excellency the Life President Ngwazi [Paramount] Dr. Kamuzu Banda, has expressed happiness that the Malawi Army is well organized and disciplined, and carries out its duties with efficiency and dedication. The life president, who is commander in chief of the Malawi Army, made the remarks in Salima today when he commissioned 29 officer cadets at the Kamuzu Military Barracks. The ngwazi, however, advised the army not to be satisfied with its present condition in the future, but to work [words indistinct] and stability. The life president also reminded the army once again to continue maintaining the country's [words indistinct] (?standards of) ability, loyalty, obedience and discipline, adding that the army must always be loyal to the government.

At this point, the life president said it was pleasing to note that in this country the army, just like the police, is loyal to the government, and continued to observe the country's [words indistinct].

In their remarks at the ceremony, the commander of the Malawi Army, General Isaac Muhanga, and the regional party chairman for the center, Juma Yohane, commended the life president for promoting a very disciplined army, which has greatly contributed towards peace in the country. Juma Yohane (?advised) the people of this country that the army will continue to maintain high professional standards in defending the interests of the people at all times.

Finance Minister Presents Budget to Parliament

MB2603180693 Blantyre Malawi Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1600 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] The minister of finance, Honorable Louis Chimango, announced today that the effects of the drought in 1992 were so severe that the economy of the country declined by 7.9 percent. Hon. Chimango disclosed this in Parliament today when he presented the 1993-94 budget in which he also revealed the world economic development. In his speech, Hon. Chimango stated that he was presenting the budget against the background of the year of serious economic setbacks since independence. The minister cited the worst drought since the late 40's, the cutting of development aid by the donor community, and unprecedented labor unrest last year that led to huge salaries and wages increases in both the public and private sectors, (?with) the setbacks which the country experienced. Hon. Chimango also said due to the drought and last year's [word indistinct] devaluation, inflation rose to 33 percent from 11.9 percent in 1991.

However Hon. Chimango added that due to enhanced activities in food, beverage, tobacco, and other industries, the manufacturing sector grew by four percent. On performance of parastatal sector, the minister said that a number of statutory bodies continue to perform well. Then the minister outlined prospects for the future. He said [word indistinct] output is expected to rise sharply by 11.3 percent in 1993. Hon. Chimango stated that the impressive growth will come mainly from agriculture, which is expected to grow by over 40 percent, compared to a decline of 25.2 percent in 1992.

On the 1993-94 budget, Hon. Chimango said gross expenditure on recurrent account is estimated at 1,651.8 million kwacha. He added that the development budget is estimated at 511.34 million kwacha of which 725 million kwacha will be funded from external sources. The minister then announced a number of fiscal measures due to [words indistinct] which will widen the tax base and to [words indistinct] some of which will come into effect at midnight tonight and others on 1 April.

Among the tax reduction measures is the removal of the [word indistinct] tax which is payable by all male citizens of the ages of 18 years and above.

Mozambique

Dhlakama Confirms Renamo Officials To Return to Maputo

MB0104095793 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0500 GMT 1 Apr 93

[Text] Afonso Dhlakama, leader of the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo], has confirmed that the Renamo delegation to the Supervision and Control Commission will return to Maputo, though he did not indicate when. According to a Renamo spokesman in Maringue, Dhlakama said the delegation will return to

Maputo together with the organization's members who will join the other commissions created in terms of the General Peace Accord. According to the spokesman, the Renamo leader's remarks were made in Maringue yesterday at a meeting with Aldo Ajello, the UN special representative in Mozambique.

The source said in the meeting, the two officials discussed issues such as the delay in the arrival of the blue helmets, lack of conditions for Renamo elements living in cities, introduction of army personnel in the police force and the granting of direct assistance for Renamo to enable it to organize itself as a political party. Dhlakama also criticized the lack of impartiality of the country's news media, and imbalances in the distribution of humanitarian aid to people in government- and Renamo-controlled areas.

According to the Renamo spokesman, Ajello assured Dhlakama that he would do his best to convey Renamo's preoccupations to the UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali.

Interior Ministry Investigates Soldiers' Mutiny

MB3103143593 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Excerpt] Superintendent Vito Cacassa, of the Republic of Mozambique Police, told Radio Mozambique this morning that it is not yet possible to give an exact and up-to-date account of the situation relating to the mutiny by demobilized soldiers in Maputo's (Manguanine) barracks. Cacassa added the Interior Ministry is continuing its investigations.

Several sources have reported that the operation by the Defense and Security Forces to end the (Manguanine) barracks mutiny resulted in seven wounded and another 600 mutineers detained. This has, however, not been confirmed by the Interior Ministry. [passage omitted]

Paris Club Reschedules Debt Over 3 Years

MB3103145393 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Text] The Paris Club has decided that Mozambique is to benefit from a \$180 million pardon against the debt it was to pay its creditors over the next three years. Mozambique's total debt was \$440 million.

The Paris Club has agreed in principle to consider a reduction in Mozambique's official debt package. This will be in force for some three years, but will hinge on the continued implementation of economic reform measures.

Anthony Nelson, economic secretary with the British Treasury Office, has expressed happiness about the Paris Club's decision to reschedule Mozambique's debt.

Swaziland

King Urges Improvement of Infrastructure

MB2703091093 Mbabane THE SWAZI NEWS in English 27 Mar 93 pp 1, 32

[By Gordon Mbuli]

[Excerpts] Ingwenyama, King Mswati III has commanded government to urgently improve services such as electricity to prevent stoppages which affect productivity in companies.

The King said the government policy of supporting businesses must be practical, especially in the provision of the necessary infrastructure, such as good roads, electricity, communication services.

His Majesty made these remarks yesterday when he officially opened the Ngwane Mills in Matsapha.

The King said Ngwane Mills is a unique Swazi success story, with fruits of its success, in terms of a high standard product, employment and stimulation of the economy, enjoyed by the country.

The King said Ngwane Mills could be said to provide the role model for Swazis investing in their own country's future.

"As I said at the recent opening of the Manzini Mall, it is important for Swaziland to free itself from the requirement to import basic necessities, particularly foodstuffs which could quite easily be grown and manufactured here, thereby stimulating employment and low prices.

"Ngwane Mills is doing just that, producing a daily household necessity here in Swaziland, thereby undercutting imports, providing employment, and retaining the profits in-country."

The King said the company's encouragement of the nation's farmers to become involved in this company, by turning to wheat growing as a cash-crop alternative to maize, deserves the nation's active support.

"Flour is unquestionably a basic necessity of any Swazi's life," he said.

The King appealed to all Swazis that once the research exercise on the growing of wheat in the country has been completed, farmers must engage in it.

His Majesty assured those farmers who will engage in the growing of what that they will not be disappointed in that Ngwane Mills is here to stay. [passage omitted]

The King lauded the cooperation that exists in the establishment of the company involving government, the local banking community, and the Swaziland Industrial Development Company (SIDC). [passage omitted]

"The criticisms of the infrastructural services to the business community are frustrations long borne by us all,

and solutions must be found soon before further loss of confidence results in more business closures."

The King also said it is heartening to note that the flour produced by Ngwane Mills is also sold outside the country as a result of Swaziland's membership to regional trade groups.

"It has long been recognised that Swaziland cannot exist successfully in isolation, and it is important that we take early advantage of the opportunities that closer trade relations with our regional partners provide us.

"Not only does this stimulate greater profits for our companies, but it establishes Swaziland as a major trading force in the region, with obvious benefits to the economy. [passage omitted]

Acting Finance Minister Delivers Budget Speech

*MB0104093593 Mbabane Swazi Television in English
1830 GMT 31 Mar 93*

[Text] The acting minister of finance, Mr. Solomon Dlamini, today delivered his budget speech which did not paint a good picture of the country's immediate economic future. One of its highlights was the sum of 3.5 million emalangeni which has been set aside for the coming elections.

[Begin Dlamini recording] In 1992/93, our latest estimates are just that we shall have a budget deficit of 51 million emalangeni, the first deficit since 1985. This is including one of receipts of 60 million emalangeni from the SASOL III [South African Coal, Oil and Gas Corporation] agreement. Revenue is not expected to increase significantly above the original estimate, where recurrent expenditure is expected to be 2 million above the budgeted estimate mainly due to increased spending on wages and salaries.

Turning to the budget for the forthcoming year, we are focusing a deficit of 125 million emalangeni. Revenue is estimated at 1.087 billion emalangeni, 17 percent greater than last year's estimate. Recurrent expenditure amounts to 831 million emalangeni, while capital expenditure is budgeted at 412 million emalangeni. Total anticipated expenditure, including statutory amounts, is budgeted at 1.3 billion emalangeni.

I would like to turn now to particular items of expenditure in the budget. An amount of 3.5 million emalangeni is allocated for the elections which are planned to take place shortly. Earlier, I mentioned the necessity of improving our infrastructural base. This year's budget has made substantial provisions for the rehabilitation, improvement, and construction of roads and upgrading industrial estates. The movement of the budget into deficit is the result of rapid growth in expenditure, which has not been matched by an equivalent increase in revenue.

This reflects underlying trends in expenditure in revenue, not a one-off position, and it is these trends that

will have to be seriously addressed in the coming year. Government reserves would not be enough to finance deficits beyond the next financial year. If we are to continue to have budget deficits, Swaziland will be forced to borrow externally, and this will worsen the financial situation even more. To ensure expenditure is controlled to affordable levels, and to look at ways of generating more revenue, a systematic review will take place, covering the priorities, policies, procedures, structures and resource allocations of all ministries and other areas of government activity.

Measures to strengthen core ministries in expenditure control are now being undertaken. I believe that today's estimates provide the maximum possible expenditure that can be supported within this year's budget. All expenditures committed this year, have been made so as to maximize the welfare of our people, and to further the development process. The government has taken measures that will encourage the mobilization of private sector resources, and which will support the development of our productive assets. As Government is going to have to restrict its role in the future due to budget constraints, there is a greater need for the private sector to respond to needs, and look at ways in which it can contribute even more to growth and development. [end recording]

Government Seeks More Financial Assistance From Britain

MB3103105193 Mbabane Radio Swaziland Network in English 1600 GMT 30 Mar 93

[Text] The Swazi Government is operating in a deficit situation after many years of surplus and as such the country needs more financial assistance than in previous years. Swaziland's acting minister for economic planning and development, Mr. Thomas Stevens, leading the Swazi team during aid talks with the British in Mbabane today, said government revenue is shrinking when compared with expenditure.

He appealed to the British Government for more financial assistance, expressing disappointment that British aid to Swaziland continues to decline. For the current financial year due to begin on Thursday [1 April] this week Britain has allocated 2.7 million British pounds. The amount is less when compared with the 2.9 million pounds given as aid to Swaziland in the 1992-93 financial year.

In response the British high commissioner to Swaziland, Mr. Brian Watkins, said money given to Swaziland this year is the exact amount this country was able to use from Britain last year. He said it was a matter of regret to the British that the aid provision for '92-'93 was underspent by 200,000 British pounds. He said to ensure that UK aid to Swaziland continues, there should be prompt development of new proposals by the Swazi Government. British financial assistance to Swaziland comes

direct from Britain, and via the United Nations, European Economic Community, and the Commonwealth Development Corporation.

The principal secretary in the Ministry of Economic Planning, Phindile Mkhonta, painted a gloomy picture of the country's economy. Briefing the British team currently in the country to discuss UK aid to Swaziland, Miss Mkhonta said government revenue is shrinking as a result of the drought and recession. She said the five percent economic growth earlier predicted for Swaziland may decline to three percent if the weather conditions fail to fully sustain growth. She said the increasing government expenditure is not development oriented, and there is no hope that the government will gain in the future from the expenditure.

Multiparty Democracy Running Into 'Wall' of Tradition

MB2603185393 Johannesburg SOWETAN in English
26 Mar 93 p 13

[Report by Nkosingphile Ziyane: "Swazi Tradition Challenged"]

[Text] Mbabane—The current of multiparty democracy that has swept through most of Africa has run into a wall of tradition in Swaziland.

In recent weeks, the Electoral Education Committee, appointed by King Mswati III, has been publicising the findings of its investigation into how the traditional tinkhundla [traditional councils of Chiefs] political system can be made more democratic without upsetting the stability of the country.

The exercise, called Vusela [Greetings Committee], was said to be, in effect, an opportunity for members of the public to express their feelings about the tinkhundla system, which provides for administration by appointed rather than democratically elected representatives.

Two commissions with a similar mandate, the first led by Prince Masitsela and the second by Prince Mahlalengani, had submitted their findings to the king.

However, the king decided to appoint a third, dubbed Vusela III, also under the leadership of Prince Mahlalengani, to reinforce the findings of the first two commissions.

When Vusela III had completed its hearings the king summoned the nation to the royal kraal to hear Prince Mahlalengani's report-back.

The prince told the nation that the committee had found that the majority of Swazis still preferred the tinkhundla system but with certain amendments. The committee recommended that multiparty politics should not be allowed at this time but that the idea might be tested again in the future.

While they were hailed as a victory in traditional and conservative circles, the findings drew the wrath of various political formations that have been advocating multiparty democracy.

When the EEC visited Mbabane to explain the requirements for voting in the next election, youths led by the Vusela Resistance Movement's Mphandlana Shongwe tore up and burned the Tinkhundla Review Commission report in a defiant rejection of the findings.

Most of the political parties have taken advantage of the government's relaxed stance on political activity even though it is still nominally banned under a decree issued by King Sobhuza II in 1973.

The Ngwane National Liberatory Congress, under the leadership of Dr. Ambrose Zwane, welcomed the fact that the election would be by secret ballot even though political parties could not field candidates. But he accepted no other provision in the report.

The People's United Democratic Movement demanded a referendum on any future dispensation. Its members had walked out of the royal kraal when Prince Mahlalengani announced that there would be no multipartyism. Such a walkout could be deemed treasonable according to tradition as this was a gathering called by the king.

Glenrose Dlamini, secretary-general of the Swaziland National Front, said "the ban on multi-party politics is a dream. Parties exist and cannot be wished away."

While many Swazis will support the tinkhundla initiative because it came from the king, the radical youth, now mainly concentrated in the Swaziland Youth Congress, together with the Human Rights Association of Swaziland and some influential members of the trade union movement, have condemned the whole tinkhundla exercise as an effort to entrench traditional systems and the Imbokodvo National Movement.

This was the party that was in power when the king scrapped the constitution in 1973. Opponents point out that no matter who is elected to the lower house, the senate—whose members are appointed by the king from among traditional chiefs and princes—will have the power to veto any legislation that may be seen to threaten traditional institutions.

Repressive legislative instruments such as the state of emergency and the detention without trial regulation have still not been repealed.

The police seem nevertheless to have displayed a much more liberal attitude towards political dissent, particularly following a statement by Prime Minister Obed Dlamini, who is also Minister of Police. He called for tolerance while the country undergoes the transition towards a more acceptable political dispensation. A former trade unionist, the Prime Minister has not won friends among the traditionalists who are known to have sought his removal.

His position was especially in doubt after he allowed a march between Mbabane and Manzini while the king was absent on a visit to Zambia.

Police escorted the marchers and even offered lifts to those who became tired—thereby making a public relations coup and being referred to as “comrade police” by the marchers.

Opposition politics in Swaziland remains badly organized, however, and cannot offer any meaningful alternative to the traditionalists.

Some observers cannot understand the authorities' reluctance to accept a multiparty dispensation, since any party supported by the king will emerge victorious.

Zimbabwe

Opposition Party Leader Discusses Policy, Support

MB3003171893 London BBC World Service in English
0630 GMT 30 Mar 93

[From the “Network Africa” program]

[Text] Well, it is two years to the next elections in Zimbabwe, but already opposition groups are looking for ways to maximize their chances of victory. Last weekend, Zimbabwe's two main pressure groups, the Forum for Democratic Reform and Open Forum, merged at a convention in Bulawayo. They formed a new party called the Forum Party. The new leaders are blaming the current economic downturn in Zimbabwe on President Robert Mugabe's socialist ideology and they say it is has been turning away foreign investors. They have promised that they will certainly make things better if they take power. Ben Dotsei Malor called up Themba Dlodlo, leader of the Open Forum Pressure Group. He asked him if this promise means that the new party is committed to free market capitalism.

[Begin recording] [Dlodlo] We believe that we must create opportunities for business. We must also create opportunities for employment and that means in fact

investment opportunities for people who can create jobs and transfer skills to Zimbabweans.

[Malor] How would you react to concerns and criticism of your new party, that is just a group of elitist intellectuals, academicians, and businessmen. What is your reaction to that?

[Dlodlo] The ZANU [Zimbabwe African National Union] government has created such a propaganda machine (?that) it has created a disinformation campaign at the moment against us. We believe very strongly that the people we represent, the people of Zimbabwe whom we are trying to organize so that they can change the government, we believe very strongly that they are like us. We have support throughout this country. We have support even among politicians who at the moment belong to other political groups, who believe that we are the alternative government.

[Malor] Does that mean you will be hoping to lure some politicians from the ruling ZANU-PF [Patriotic Front] Party?

[Dlodlo] Our policy is actually, we are so attractive not only to our supporters, but even among the people who are in other political parties, that we believe that we will be in a position to command much support within the next three months.

[Malor] Mr. Dlodlo: attempts to form a viable opposition to Mr. Mugabe in the very recent past have faltered because of leadership crisis in these new opposition groups. Do you foresee the same problem cropping up in your new Forum Party of Zimbabwe?

[Dlodlo] No, no, no, no. There is no... [pauses, changes thought] we don't have that problem. As I said to you, we are the first political party to be formed with a membership, a membership from the two pressure groups, the forum pressure groups. We have among ourselves decided to choose a leadership which will be running this party until the national congress in about October, November. Leadership (?proper) usually arises due to competition and all that, but we are not competing, we are not competing with one objective, to see that our people have an opportunity to choose the government that they want. [sentence as heard] [end recording]

Benin**ADP Urges Support for Togolese Opposition**

*AB2703183093 Cotonou Office de Radiodiffusion-
Television du Benin Radio in French 0615 GMT
25 Mar 93*

[Communique issued by the Alliance for Democracy and Progress in Cotonou on 25 March on the situation in Togo]

[Text] Forced either into exile or exodus to other parts of the country, the Togolese people are looking for ways and means of coming out of their current sociopolitical crisis. It is within this context that representatives of the democratic forces, coming together under the umbrella of the Collective of Democratic Opposition-II [COD-II], met in Cotonou to examine the political situation and make urgent proposals for a general solution to the Togolese crisis. But this meeting and the proposals stemming from it raised both positive reactions as well as biased interpretations.

Thus, a section of the international press, in a superficial and sketchy analysis, saw in the COD-II decision to propose a single candidate for the post of prime minister a consensus already endorsed by the High Council of the Republic. The naming of a parallel prime minister is similar to the chaotic situation in Zaire. Even though in the two countries of Eyadema and Mobutu one can find the same tactics—murderous violence, theft, rape, blockades, and the taking of national conference institutions hostage, and so on—to hold on to power, one can legitimately ask the purpose of such biased and confusionist interpretations of the decisions reached at the COD-II meeting.

It was also in the same vein that the spokesman for the Republican Salvation Front made a violent diatribe against the COD-II meeting and its decisions on one hand, and against the Beninese people and their government, on the other hand. Once again, Eyadema and his supporters have refused the opposition's extended hand for a rapid solution to the crisis. They have displayed their obstinate desire to lead Togo into a civil war if the people did not yield to their dictatorship.

What can our people and their government be blamed for? For spontaneously offering hospitality to their Togolese brothers who were living in insecurity on their own territory for having legitimately demanded to enjoy democratic freedom? The Beninese people cannot receive any lessons from anyone in the area of democratic freedom, much less from supporters of dictatorship and butchers of the Togolese people. There cannot, therefore, be any apologies by whomsoever to anyone. Thus, the Alliance for Democracy and Progress [ADP] remains convinced that the Beninese Government has no apologies to render regarding the holding of the COD-II meeting and its fair conclusions—according to a section of the press—on the free and democratic land of Benin.

The ADP urges Beninese democrats and patriots to give their active and unflinching support to the Togolese people in their struggle to overcome fatality and to the Togolese democratic organizations for the triumph of the ideals of peace, freedom, justice, and progress. It also reaffirms its total support to the actions undertaken and those planned by the collective of political parties of Benin, signatories to the 16 February 1993 joint statement on the situation in Togo.

Cote d'Ivoire**Soldiers Return to Barracks; Dialogue 'Triumphed'**

*AB3103133093 Abidjan Radio Cote d'Ivoire Chaine
Nationale-Une Network in French 1245 GMT
31 Mar 93*

[Text] There has been a happy development in the mutiny by the 45 soldiers in the Republican Guard following an audience granted by the head of state who yesterday evening received a delegation of the mutineers. All 45 soldiers have returned to their barracks. After listening to the mutineers' demands, the president of the Republic promised that he will examine their demands in light, of course, of our country's current economic situation.

Thus, once again, dialogue has triumphed in our country. As the head of state, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, said last January before the diplomatic corps, Cote d'Ivoire—which has made dialogue and peace its second religion—will never experience trouble or tribal wars.

Ghana**Sierra Leone Envoy Brings Strasser Message to Rawlings**

*AB3003155693 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation
Radio Network in English 1800 GMT 30 Mar 93*

[Excerpt] The president, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, has held talks with the attorney general of Sierra Leone, Mr. Arnold Bishop Gooding. Mr. Gooding was at the Castle, Osu, as the special envoy of the Sierra Leonean leader, Captain Valentine Strasser. Our correspondent, Teye Kitcher, has the story:

[Kitcher] Mr. Bishop Gooding was at the Castle to deliver a message of solidarity from his head of state, Capt. Valentine Strasser, to President Rawlings. Mr. Bishop Gooding also briefed the president on the state of the war against rebels in Sierra Leone and the socio-economic development of the country.

The Sierra Leonean envoy also discussed the reopening of his country's high commission in Ghana after a closure of almost 10 years. The reopening of the high

commission would certainly reaffirm the ties of friendship and cooperation which the two countries are currently enjoying.

During an interaction with newsmen after his discussions with President Rawlings, Mr. Bishop Gooding disclosed that the war against the rebels in Sierra Leone has taken a positive turn. He said 11 out of the 12 districts, formerly under rebel control, have been retaken. Mr. Gooding was optimistic that the war would soon be brought to an end to pave the way for the reconstruction of Sierra Leone.

Mr. Bishop Gooding gave an indication of the direction his country's political life would take after the war:

[Begin Gooding recording] We have an advisory council in place. It is already working out a program for the return to political and democratic (?process). [end recording] [passage omitted]

Liberia

NPRA Calls For Dialogue, Removal of External Pressure
AB3103184393 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English 0700 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Text] The Interim Government has expressed outrage over the failure of the international community to encourage dialogue among Liberians to negotiate an end to the conflict in the country. Government is calling for the removal of external pressure on the people of Liberia and expressed the need for Liberians to meet and talk about the conditions for peace, reconciliation, and national unity.

President Charles Gankay Taylor said Liberians have not been given a chance to reconcile their differences, saying the international community has failed to sponsor a conference on Liberia. He said unlike Bosnia, Angola, Somalia, Sudan, and other trouble spots where conferences are being sponsored among the leaders, Liberia is being treated differently and instructed by external forces.

President Taylor said they are treating Liberia like a perpetual [word indistinct] state, saying there is no record of Liberians sitting together to discuss the destiny of their country. President Taylor referred to previous meetings held in Gbarnga with a number of Liberian interest groups and those of Krahn tribe from Monrovia. He also recalled a series of telephone conversations and exchanges between him and Amos Sawyer of the Monrovia group, but regretted that obstacles are being placed in the way to peace in Liberia by detractors. Some time last year, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] discouraged Amos Sawyer from meeting with President Taylor in Harbel.

While the NPRA [National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly] government is encouraging dialogue, the head

of the Monrovia group, Dr. Amos Sawyer, has ruled out any discussion with the NPRA government and the people of Liberia to end the conflict. Reports say political pressure is coming to bear on Sawyer for closing down [words indistinct] while the people of Liberia continue to suffer.

Niger

President Ousmane on Tuareg Truce, Other Issues
LD2903174293 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] [Announcer] Our guest on Afrique Midi is Mahamane Ousmane, the new president of Niger. He has just won the second round of presidential elections. He announced that his first priority will be to reestablish peace. The Tuareg rebels decided on a truce until 31 March to allow the smooth running of the vote. What will Mahamane Ousmane do to make this truce last longer? This is what Murielle Pomponne asked:

[Begin recording] [Ousmane] First of all, we will establish contact with the rebellion's representatives, and embark on negotiations so as to clarify, let us say, the situation of this problem, and try to consider immediate and urgent actions, which are possible, so as to facilitate subsequent negotiations. As you know, at the moment people are being held by the rebellion as well as by our side. So clearly this situation is intolerable. So it is therefore a question of speedily examining what has to be done, with the agreement of all concerned, so as to lower the tension and create a framework of trust which is likely to facilitate the identification of the solutions, I was almost going to say a definite solution, to this particular problem.

This truce is in itself a very important sign that bears witness to the understanding that our compatriots who have joined the rebellion have gained confidence that the people of Niger are able to start and continue the democratic process. We think that this is an extremely important gesture that should be appreciated for what it is worth. We are very confident that with gestures of this sort, we say that our compatriots who have joined the rebellion have a state of mind that could facilitate the resolution of the problem.

Above all, we, the representatives of the Forces for Change, are very confident. We say that our compatriots who have joined the rebellion do not have any reason to doubt our goodwill as well as our ability to deal with this problem in a calm manner and also to find solutions to it along with them.

[Pomponne] [words indistinct] political, you obtained this victory with your allies, eight parties were supporting you. Which position will you give your allies now that you have won the post of president of the Republic?

[Ousmane] As far as I am concerned, we are democrats and we also attach importance to transparency in management. There are nine of us, parties engaged in taking and exercising power. These different tendencies, these different political bodies, have certain characteristics, they each have a certain dimension. If we want to be honest with ourselves, if we want to respect the people who have shown confidence in us, we must therefore take this into account and give each the position that it has a right to, within, at least, the framework of the exercising of responsibilities which awaits us.

[Pomponne] Are you confirming that Mohamadou Issoufou, leader of the Niger Party for Democracy and Socialism, could be prime minister, and Moumouni Djermkoye, leader of the National Alliance for Democracy and Progress, could be president of the National Assembly?

[Ousmane] Exactly. I am confirming this for you.

[Pomponne] I would also like to know what you would like to say to the 45 percent of Niger nationals who did not vote for you?

[Ousmane] I would tell the 45 percent of voters who did not vote for me that on the one hand I thank them a lot for their honesty, their frankness, and their courage, for clearly expressing their choice and opinion. That is democracy. We do not want unanimity. Not at all. They did this in all freedom. They did this in the discretion and privacy of their souls and consciences. It is not up to me to reproach them for this. What we can note is that in fact the result of this vote really constitutes the expression of the will of the people of Niger. Consequently we should all consider this as such. We should consider that this is a message from all the people of Niger, and as I have said, where I am concerned I am committed to being the president of all the people of Niger, those who voted for me as well as those who voted for my competitor and those who, for various reasons, were not able to take part in this vote. [end recording]

Nigeria

SDP Postpones Election of National Officers

AB3103094593 Paris AFP in English 0446 GMT
31 Mar 93

[By Ade Obisesan]

[Text] Lagos, March 31 (AFP)—Nigeria's Social Democratic Party [SDP] Tuesday [30 March] postponed indefinitely the election of national officers because of a row over "voting irregularities," party officials said. Most

delegates to the convention, which convened Saturday and picked a candidate for June's presidential election, headed home after the row.

The controversy flared late Monday when a number of delegates at the convention, held in the central plateau state capital Jos, started voting for candidates to party posts ahead of the official schedule.

Only the intervention of the SDP national caretaker committee chairman, retired Air Vice Marshal Ishaya Shakari, halted the bid. Caretaker party committees are scheduled to make way for newly-elected national officials before April 11.

Shakari later announced that party officer elections had been indefinitely postponed, although he insisted the delay would not affect the hand over to elected officials.

Party sources said the delay could allow the SDP to hold consultations over who should be the presidential running-mate for its candidate Moshood Kashimawo Abiola, and who should be the national party chairman.

Meanwhile, lawyer Hameed Kusamotu was Tuesday elected the chairman of the rival National Republican Convention (NRC, conservative) in Port Harcourt, capital of south-eastern Rivers state. His election, along with other party national officers, marked the end of the NRC national convention, which also started Saturday.

The two parties, which have now both picked their candidates for the June 12 presidential elections, were created in October 1989 by the government of General Ibrahim Babangida which banned existing parties.

The SDP picked 55-year-old Abiola, a multi-millionaire and newspaper baron from western Ogun state, while the NRC chose Alhaji Bashir Othman Tofa, 46, a millionaire businessman from northern Kano state.

Although official radio and television announced Monday that Tofa had picked Joe Nwodo as his running mate, the lawyer denied the report Tuesday, saying that the party had yet to make its choice.

Nwodo, a former NRC presidential aspirant from eastern Enugu state, withdrew from the contest to boost Tofa's chances.

The generally peaceful party conventions followed the military government's cancellation of presidential "primaries" last September which were marred by charges of vote-rigging, intimidation and malpractice. The scheduled return to civilian rule was delayed as a result. The military regime of President Babangida, which came to power on August 27, 1985 in a bloodless coup, has now promised to cede power to an elected government on August 27 this year.

Military To Escort Oil Tankers Bound for Niger State

AB2803165593 Kaduna Radio Nigeria in English 1700 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Excerpts] Petrol tankers supplying fuel to Niger State from Kaduna Refinery are now to be accompanied by military and police personnel to avoid the diversion of the commodity to unauthorized places. Governor Musa Inuwa announced this today while speaking to newsmen on arrival in Minna from the lesser Hajj in Saudi Arabia. Governor Musa Inuwa said the decision was taken at a meeting with the two arms of the force this morning following the worsening of fuel supply situation in the state. [passage omitted]

Our correspondent reports that most vehicles were off the road today in the state capital due to lack of fuel. In a later development, taxi fares in Kaduna State have increased by almost 100 percent following acute shortage of petrol. Other products affected by the hike in price include foodstuffs and other essential commodities. [passage omitted]

Togo

Koffigoh on Attack, Opposition in Benin

AB3103190293 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 30 Mar 93 pp 2,3

[First installment of interview with Prime Minister Joseph Koffigoh by FRATERNITE MATIN's Noel Yao in Lome on 24 March; italicized passage is FRATERNITE MATIN introduction]

[Excerpts] *The proposed appointment of Mr. Savi de Tove as the new prime minister by the Togolese opposition, which met on 22 March in Cotonou, Benin, is not likely to disturb the current head of government Koffigoh. In an interview on 24 March with FRATERNITE MATIN and IVOIR SOIR, Togo's prime minister said that he did not feel bound by the action of his opposition "friends."*

We also got the prime minister's reaction to the armed attack launched against the barracks where President Eyadema lives.

"A deplorable act of violence," Mr. Koffigoh said, and described efforts being made to restore security to Togo in the first part of our interview. Tomorrow, in the second part, Mr. Koffigoh condemns the call for an armed struggle made by some leaders of the Togolese opposition.

[Yao] Mr. Prime Minister, the armed attack against the Interarms Regiment Camp resulted in the death of two officers from the south of the country, where you are from. Do you have any special comment to make? Was this coup not aimed at you directly?

[Koffigoh] We have always condemned violence wherever it comes from. We find it deplorable that a strategy of violence should again be plotted and executed. This

said, an inquiry has been opened to find the perpetrators. The findings of this inquiry will make it possible to determine who is responsible. However, I would like to stress that since the formation of the "crisis government," we have been concerned with restoring Togo's security. The Operation Reconciliation and Security 93 Force will soon become operational since the decree establishing this force has been issued. We do not understand why, in spite of these efforts, some people are still resorting to violence. [passage omitted]

[Yao] My question is: General Ameji and Colonel Tepe, who were killed during the armed attack, are southerners like you. Was this act not somehow directed against you?

[Koffigoh] You know, all the consequences of acts of aggression are regrettable. I do not reason in terms of southerner or northerner. During a shoot-out, I do not know of any bullets that are....selective. When violence is unleashed, it strikes at everybody, regardless of skin color or origin. This is how I see things.

[Yao] Mr. Prime Minister, there was talk of neighboring countries. Do you think this was directed at a particular country, Ghana for example?

[Koffigoh] I prefer to wait for the findings of the inquiry.

[Yao] From a purely political point of view, your friends in the Collective of Democratic Opposition II, proposed in Cotonou the appointment of a new prime minister, Mr. Savi de Tovi, to replace you. How do you react to this?

[Koffigoh] I believe it is a mistake on the part of my opposition friends. It is a mistake on two counts: First, because it was done on foreign territory, and this does not honor our country. Second, instead of seeking real solutions to the Togolese crisis, this act only worsens matters. That being the case, as some people in our country say, agreements are only binding on their signatories. I do not feel personally bound by this.

[Yao] On these two points, your "friends" have some arguments: The nationwide insecurity, which accounts for their temporary exile in Benin, and the illegality of your reappointment by General Eyadema....

[Koffigoh] Concerning insecurity, if they had appointed a security minister, I would have understood, but, this was not the case. I do not therefore see how this act will contribute in any way to the resolution of the security problems of our country.

On the decision made by the head of state to renew his confidence in me to complete the democratization process, I think his decision is only a way of confirming his support for certain aspects of the philosophy of the Sovereign National Conference.

[Yao] Did he have the statutory and legal option to do this? That is the question....

[Koffigoh] It is a very interesting issue legally, but it is an issue that must also be examined from the political angle. From the legal point of view, the opposition itself limited the term of office of certain organs of the transition. Obviously, this was a mistake. Today, it does not have the courage to accept this mistake and is looking for a scapegoat to blame.

[Yao]....In this case, Mr. Koffigoh, who is said to have "treated with the devil...."

[Koffigoh] Who is the devil?

[Yao] That is obvious.

[Koffigoh] There are a lot of people in this opposition who, for 25 years, have lived in the house of the head of state. Some of them did not belong to the opposition until the eve of the Sovereign National Conference, whereas we had been fighting for democracy. As far as this matter is concerned, I do not have any lessons to learn from anybody.

[Yao] Let us talk about the indefinite strike launched by the opposition. Five months after the strike started, what would you say the overall situation is? Your government has taken initiatives and even issued ultimatums. What is the reality of the situation today?

[Koffigoh] There is the strike and there are the other matters facing the nation. I am greatly concerned that we really examine the leading matters of the nation. That is what interests me.

[Yao] Let us talk about security.

[Koffigoh] Earlier on I told you about the security issue. After the failure of the various negotiation attempts, particularly that of Colmar, I talked with the head of state about another security mechanism for the country. For the moment, it is working. This is how we agreed on some basic principles containing several points for running a new government. The Army stays in the barracks. The gendarmerie and the police, from now on, will be responsible for maintaining public order in the country. The president of the Republic and I have agreed on the principle of requesting assistance from countries that have defense ties with Togo to perhaps help, based on our needs, with the technical supervision, training, and retraining of the personnel who will be responsible for maintaining order. If the defense agreements are well applied and if we also have the appropriate equipment, it should work.

The door is especially open to the opposition to conduct its activities in conformity with the laws and to acknowledge the principle of consultation and dialogue as the best and sole means of resolving the Togolese problem. If these principles had been prepared and laid down for the Colmar meeting, it would not have failed. In other words, we have succeeded, with patient determination, in drawing up an agreement that satisfies Togolese presently in Togo and that is the important issue.

FRS Party Calls For Suspension of Relations With Benin

AB2303195293 Lome Radio Lome in French 2200 GMT 22 Mar 93

[Statement issued by the Republican Front for Salvation, FRS, in Lome on 22 March—read by Gbodjonan Akosulelo, not further identified]

[Text] Since the beginning of our country's political crisis, men of goodwill have been striving and continue to team their efforts to find acceptable solutions through dialogue and consultations. Partisan attempts devoid of good faith have always failed and there is no need to recall the patent failure of the Colmar talks, which showed the opposition's desire to sell out our country's sovereignty. Initiatives by church leaders recently gave Togolese some hope as to the outcome of negotiations between the various factions involved in the current crisis. The mission by the pope's envoy, Cardinal Etchegaray, the statement made after the so-called inter-Christian dialogue and others, gave Togolese hope and confidence.

The government's reconciliation efforts have been consented to by the people, but unfortunately, this hope, stemming from all the above-mentioned initiatives, is now about to be dashed by those who have always rejected consensus and political compromise because they prefer tension to escalate. It is regrettable to note today that a head of state who, above all, is the current chairman of the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS], an organization that has always worked for peace and concord between the peoples of the subregion, is now paradoxically behind the tearing up of our social fabric and the disintegration of our economy.

It is through the pretext of democracy that his socialist friends placed him at the head of the Beninese state, knowing in advance his inability to free our Beninese brothers from their state of underdevelopment. Today, he is trying to cover up, with the pretense of a success, his obvious failure thanks to the people who have always had their birthdates recorded both on Beninese and Togolese registers and, who do not hesitate to brandish one or the other to suit the circumstances and thanks to some Togolese who have lost their sense of honor, being politically naive, stupid, and ready to sell their country to enrich themselves individually.

In a statement published in the 4-10 March issue of JEUNE AFRIQUE No.178, President Soglo said and I quote: The risk is a real one, the country already has one foot in a civil war. [no end of quote, as heard]. It is henceforth clear that President Soglo is asserting himself as someone who supports the destabilization of our country and taking advantage of the exodus he organized with the complicity of his friends of the Collective of Democratic Opposition II [COD-II] and the Federation of Independent Trade Unions [CSI], the Beninese president is cynically knocking on the doors of the international organizations in order to obtain assistance which,

in actual fact, constitutes a lifeline for the Beninese economy, which is already in a disaster.

Moreover, the announcement by Radio France Internationale this morning and the meeting of the COD-II in Cotonou on 22 March in order to appoint a prime minister who is to form a parallel government, constitute a real declaration of war with the blessing of the current ECOWAS chairman.

The sovereign Togolese people should react and peace-loving Beninese attached to the principles of peace, brotherhood, and historic solidarity between our two brotherly peoples should also react. President Soglo should be held responsible for his actions.

Therefore, we recommend that our country should immediately suspend diplomatic relations with the Soglo regime, which is at its wits end; that Togo, a founding member of the ECOWAS, should withdraw its confidence in President Soglo as current chairman of that institution because, if one remembers history, Soglo was one of the very people once used by imperialists to prevent the creation of this organization.

Issued in Lome on 22 March.

[Signed] The Republican Front for Salvation

With copies to the office of the president of the Republic, the office of the prime minister, embassies, and political parties.

Thank you.

Decrees on Establishment of Security Organizations

*AB2703095193 Lome Radio Lome in French 1900
GMT 23 Mar 93*

[Decrees by head of state on the establishment of security organizations in Lome on 23 March]

[Text] Article 1: The Council of Defense is charged with problems concerning national defense, gives its opinion and formulates proposals on issues submitted to it by the government;

Article 2: The president of the Republic presides over the Council of Defense with the prime minister as his deputy. He shall replace the president of the Council of Defense whenever necessary;

Article 3: The Council of Defense comprises statutory members and members appointed each year by decree. And based on their competence, ministers and secretaries of state who are not statutory members, as well as other people, can also be appointed by the president of the Republic to take part in its deliberations for the study of a specific problem;

Article 4: Statutory members of the Council of Defense are: the minister of national defense, the minister of

foreign affairs and cooperation, the minister of territorial administration and security, the minister of economy and finance, the chief of defense staff of the Togolese Armed Forces and the commander of the National Gendarmerie;

Article 5: The Council of Defense shall meet either in a plenary session at the request of the president of the Republic who shall draw up the agenda under the proposals by the prime minister, or on the committee level for the study of a specific problem;

Article 6: The permanent secretary of the Council of Defense shall be the chief of defense staff of the Togolese Armed Forces;

Article 7: All previous provisions contrary to the present decree, especially Decree No.91/013 PMRT of 26 September 1991, are abrogated.

Signed: General Gnassingbe Eyadema, president of the Republic; Joseph Kokou Koffigoh, prime minister; Inoussa Traore Bouraima, minister of national defense; Ouattara Fambare Natchaba minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; Georges Combevi Agbodjan, minister of territorial administration and security; and Franck Doh Fianyo, minister of economy and finance.

In another act, the president of the Republic: considering the constitution of 14 October 1992, especially Article 152; considering Acts 63/7 of 17 July 1963 and 64/26 of 31 October 1964 concerning the code of military personnel, decrees:

Article 1: A special force called Operation Reconciliation and Security-93 Force, FORS-93, has been set up; FORS-93 is charged with restoring peace and ensuring security of persons and property throughout the country before, during, and after the legislative and presidential elections; to take all measures to maintain public order in the strictest neutrality toward all political parties and in the respect of existing laws and regulations;

Article 2: FORS-93 shall comprise elements from the National Gendarmerie, the national police, and the Territorial Security Guard Corps;

Article 3: The FORS-93, placed under the command of a senior officer of the Togolese Armed Forces, appointed by decree at the proposal of the minister of national defense, shall be under the authority of the Council of Defense and presided over by the president of the Republic and assisted by the prime minister.

Article 4: A technical orientation committee, comprising the representatives of the chief of defense staff of the Togolese Armed Forces, the commander of the FORS-93, the commander of the National Gendarmerie, the director general of the national police, the chief of staff of the Territorial Security Guard Corps, the head of the military household of the prime minister, the head of the military household of the minister of national defense,

the technical adviser of the minister of territorial administration and security, shall define a plan for the deployment and missions of the FORS-93 concerning security issues;

Article 5: The deployment plan shall be submitted to the Council of Defense for approval before it is implemented;

Article 6: The FORS-93 shall be commanded in each prefecture by an officer of the gendarmerie or a commissioner of police appointed by a decree of the prime minister at the joint proposal of the minister of national defense and the minister of territorial administration and security. He shall report on his mission to the commander of the Operation Reconciliation and Security-93;

Article 7: Placed under the direct authority of the commander of the operation, the officer of the gendarmerie or the commissioner of police charged with this mission shall be at the disposal of the prefect who shall give his support as part of the security operations. The prefect shall define the framework of the missions while the plan set up to ensure the maintenance of public order shall fall within the competence of the commander of the FORS-93 in the prefecture. However, the prefect shall report

permission for meetings and demonstrations to the authorities of the Operation Reconciliation and Security-93 48 hours before they take place.

Article 8: The commander of the FORS-93 in the prefecture shall in no way interfere in the administrative and political matters. However, he can be consulted by the prefect before permission is issued out for some demonstrations. He reports the results of missions entrusted to him to the prefect;

Article 9: The setting up of this FORS-93 shall in no way jeopardize the missions traditionally involving in the gendarmerie, police, and the territorial security guards in the prefectures.

Article 10: The Operation Reconciliation and Security-93 shall be abolished after the establishment of institutions of the Fourth Republic. The duration of the FORS-93 could be prolonged if circumstances so demand;

Article 11: The minister of national defense and the minister of territorial administration and security are each charged with the implementation of the present decree which shall be published in the official gazette of the Republic of Togo.

END OF

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